

OVERSEAS NEWS

Britain prepares a 2-hour UN report on Rhodesia talks

From MALCOLM DEAN: United Nations, NY, November 24

Britain has prepared a two-hour address to explain the Rhodesian proposal to the Security Council. This will make it the longest statement Britain has ever made to the council. Sir Colin Crowe, the chief British delegate, in a letter to the President of the Security Council today, suggested that a council meeting should be called tomorrow, but African and Asian members, whose agreement is needed, may postpone the meeting until Friday. Many African and Asian members are extremely suspicious about the proposals and are in no mood to allow Britain to unveil its proposals before their replies are ready.

Sigh of relief in Pretoria

From STANLEY UYS: Cape Town, November 24

A huge sigh of relief went up in Pretoria today when the Rhodesian settlement was announced.

Mr Vorster has congratulated the British and Rhodesian leaders on their statesmanship, and his Ministers are saying privately that some of the heat will be taken off Southern Africa now, in spite of "leftist" protests and possibly an initial intensification of guerrilla activity on Rhodesia's borders.

As far back as 1967, Mr Vorster expressed the conviction that a Rhodesian settlement was imperative for the stability and prosperity of Southern Africa. A year later, he said it was only the Rhodesian situation that was preventing the building of a Southern Africa block of nations.

The settlement will relieve Mr Vorster's Government of the necessity to underpin Rhodesia economically — acting as its foreign currency clearing house and handling its imports and exports — and to share the political wrath that has been directed against it. Much of the international attention that has been given to Southern Africa as a result of the Rhodesian

dispute will be diverted elsewhere now, Mr Vorster's Government hopes.

Mr Hennie Smith MP, a spokesman for Mr Vorster's Nationalist Party, said today that the settlement could be the start of "a new era of stability in Southern Africa" and of "greater realism in international politics."

The Leader of the Opposition, Sir de Villiers Graaf, said: "A prosperous Rhodesia restored to international respectability would be a big asset to South Africa, would help in secure her northern boundaries, and would improve the stability of the whole of Southern Africa."

The biggest wish of the Vorster Government is that the settlement will lead in time to normal political and economic relations between South Africa and Zambia. Zambia is a key State in the stabilisation of Southern Africa.

It is felt that if relations between South Africa and Rhodesia on the one side and Zambia on the other side can be fully restored, Zambia might even be persuaded to evict the anti-Rhodesian and anti-South African guerrillas based on its territory.

Spur for Zambia's ailing economy

From our Correspondent: Lusaka, November 24

The timing of the settlement comes at a fortunate moment for Zambia. For some weeks now it has been generally recognised in official quarters in Lusaka that a settlement would help to alleviate the country's growing economic problems, as Zambia could then suspend sanctions against Rhodesia and reopen trade routes which are less of a drain on foreign reserves than the new ones built up with countries in Europe, the Far East, and elsewhere since Mr Smith's unilateral declaration of independence.

Indeed, as a result of Zambia's financial situation earlier this year an order was placed for one and a half million bags of maize from Rhodesia, this same volume of staple food having been imported the previous year from as far away as Albania and the United States, with a consequent drain in foreign reserves.

Zambia's economy has suffered as a result of the collapse in the price of copper which still accounts of 95 per cent of all its export earnings. Thus in the first nine months of this year Zambia's foreign exchange fell from £225 million to £132 million in September. Government revenue has been reduced by half.

Nevertheless, President Kaunda, last year's chairman of the Organisation of African Unity and a staunch champion of African rule, will be disappointed that Britain should have taken control of the administration in Rhodesia while arrangements were power to the Africans.

The first official reaction here came today in a statement by the Foreign Ministry spokesman. He expressed "a deep regret that Britain should have taken control of the administration in Rhodesia while arrangements were power to the Africans."

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Labour team to fly out

By KEITH HARPER

Mr Denis Healey, Shadow Foreign Secretary, is to be one of the members of a special Labour Party Commission to visit Rhodesia—probably in the new year—to make sure that the settlement has the approval of all the Rhodesian people.

The Labour Party's scepticism and mistrust of the deal hammered out between Sir Alec Douglas-Home and Mr Ian Smith was reflected in the immediate decision by the party's national executive committee yesterday to send out a four-man commission to Rhodesia to study the position at first hand.

Apart from Mr Healey, the other members of the team will be Mr Joe Gormley, the leader and chairman of the party's international committee, Miss Joan Lester, Labour MP for Eton and Slough, who had demanded that a special

envoy be sent by Transport House, and Mr Tom McNally, national department. As soon as news of settlement started coming through from Salisbury yesterday, Mr Gormley drafted an emergency resolution on Rhodesia which received the unanimous approval of the NEC. It noted "with grave foreboding" the news that Sir Alec had signed agreement with Mr Smith, "leader of the illegal Rhodesian regime."

The resolution reiterated Labour Party policy that no agreement should be submitted to Parliament unless it was within the framework laid down by successive British Governments.

In particular, the Labour Party is going to demand that any settlement must guarantee rapid and unimpeded progressive majority rule; and that it

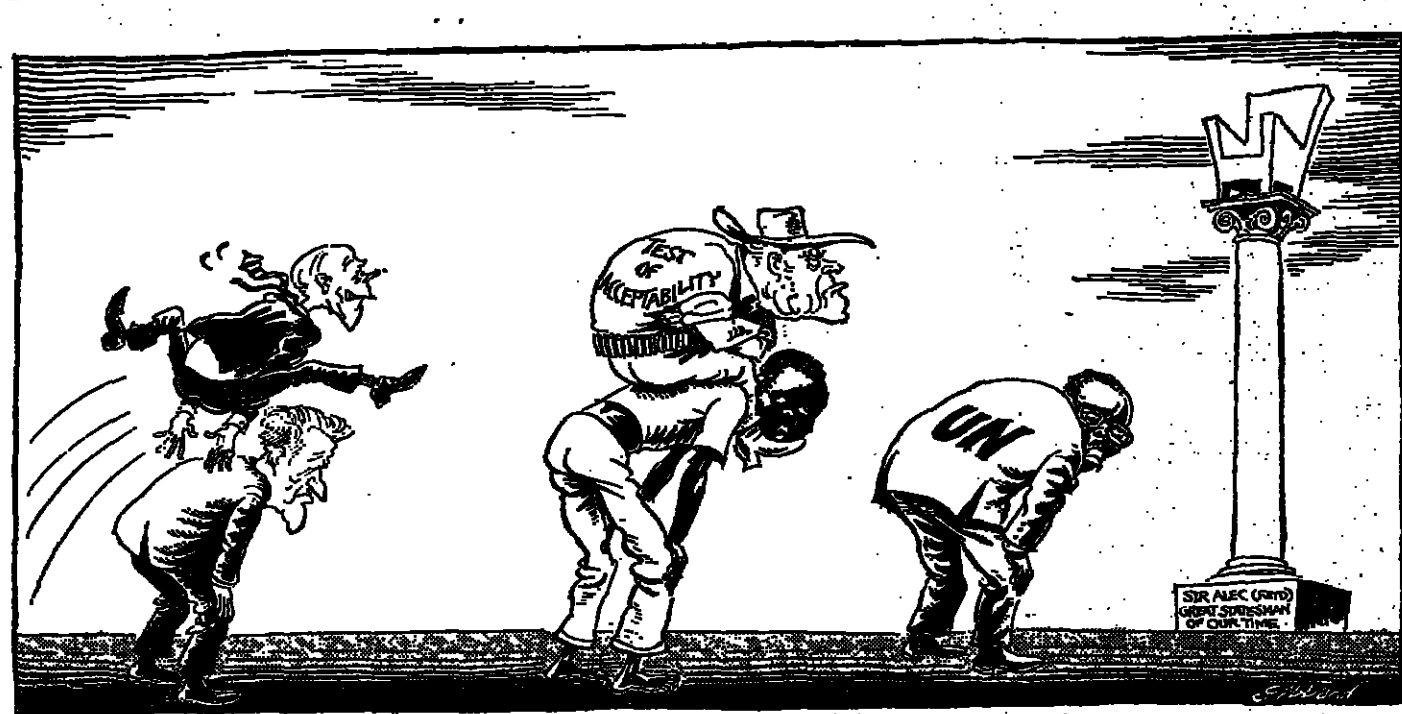
must be effectively protected from retrogressive amendment "and the abandonment of the discriminatory legislation introduced by the illegal regime."

The concern felt at yesterday's NEC that the Government was heading for a self-out on Rhodesia was reflected in the contributions of each member, whether on the Left or Right. It was the first indication that the Government is in for a difficult time as it tries to justify the deal to Parliament.

Mr Wedgwood Benn, chairman of the party, said afterwards that the commission would want to see everybody—people in prison included. By the time it returned to London it would have interviewed a far wider group of people than Sir Alec.

which it was presented. Asked if it would be allowed into Rhodesia, Sir Harry Nicholas, the party's general secretary, replied that Mr Smith would want to demonstrate that the British people that this was so. "It would be difficult to refuse facilities. What better way could there be than letting the Labour party go along for corroborative purposes?" Regardless of the settlement terms, the team still intends going.

In a paper to the executive yesterday, Transport House sets out the six main principles established by the last Labour Government on which a settlement had to be based. The settlement had to be based on the one—that there should be no oppression of majority by a minority or vice versa; and that the party leadership considers the least important, so long as the first five are strictly adhered to.



Mixed reaction to what settlement means

By our own Reporter

"another negotiating team which appeared racialism—at Munich in 1938."

Mr Bottomley also saw the settlement as a prelude to future violence. "It is my forecast, regrettably, that European Rhodesians will regret today, because Africans will realise that they cannot get what they want by democratic and peaceful development and they will be turning more and more to violence."

"There can be no fair transfer of power to Rhodesia except on the basis of independence before majority rule. We are going to have a repetition of what happened when we

transferred power to South Africa in the belief that Africans would have rights."

Mr Denis Healey, shadow Foreign Secretary, was cautious but sceptical. He said in a BBC interview that his own minimum conditions "included acceptance of the objective of African rule, the end of the Land Tenure Act, guarantees against retrospective amendment of the agreement, and consultations of Africans on the agreement by 'totally impartial' people."

The Bishop of Stepney, the Rt Rev Trevor Huddleston, said it was in his view unlikely that any settlement would prove agreeable to the mass of African people. This would be particularly true of people in adjacent countries who would say—in his view rightly—that the only acceptable condition would be no independence before majority rule.

A spokesman for FRELIMO—a new organisation representing the banned African parties in Rhodesia, ZANU and ZAPU said: "There is no hope for Africans if the agreement is based on the five principles, because it means minority independence with Ian Smith in control. There is no guarantee that Ian Smith will not declare another UDI if he should find that Africans are about to become a majority."

Mr Duncan Sandys, once a Conservative Minister with African responsibilities, called the news "splendid." The settlement on reasonable terms of the tragic breach between Britain and Rhodesia, he said, would bring great benefit to all races in Rhodesia, and especially Africans, who had suffered most from sanctions.

Two sides 'share' interests

The East African Standard said today of the Rhodesia settlement that it will be impossible to convince the leaders of independent black African States that anything less than no independence before majority rule is not a sell-out. In a leading article this morning the Nairobi daily said: "The first impediment to African acceptance of whatever terms may be proposed lies in the sentence in the short communiqué from Salisbury that the proposals will be put to the Rhodesian people through a test of acceptability which will be organised as soon as possible. What does this grandiloquent phrase mean? How will the test be conducted?"

The agreement appeared to have been concluded between two sides having largely coinciding mutual interests, rather than with African participation in the negotiations, the paper said.

It suggested that a package deal in two stages might have been agreed, with, in the first stage, whites maintaining parliamentary control—and Britain voting considerable money to finance African development in tribal trust lands.

The second stage might see the abolition of separate voting rolls with "majority rule" by most of the responsible, civilised people in the country, following.

"The period in mind is no less than 20 years, which certainly will not appease critical African opinion," the Standard concluded. — Reuters.

Nixon to see Heath on Peking visit?

From ADAM RAPHAEL

Washington, November 24 President Nixon is expected to meet Mr Heath soon after seeing President Pompidou on December 13 and 14 in the Azores as "part of the process of consultation" before his visits to Moscow and Peking.

After the Pompidou announcement, Mr Ronald Ziegler, the President's press secretary, refused to say whether any further meetings were planned, explaining that most of the consultations would be handled through NATO headquarters in Brussels.

But sources here acknowledged that arrangements were being made for a meeting with the British Prime Minister, probably early in the new year. Mr Heath has not seen President Nixon since his visit here a year ago. Discreet sources were reported to have been put out by the Administration this summer but the British Government believed it was wiser to get the Common Market negotiations out of the way first.

The British Embassy refused to comment on the possibility of a Nixon-Heath meeting. More forthcoming was the West German Government which, through its Embassy spokesman, said: "We welcome this further possibility for discussion of the problems of the alliance."

The Nixon-Pompidou meeting is likely to be dominated by monetary discussion. Mr Nixon is to be accompanied by the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr Connally, Dr Kissinger, his national security adviser, and the Secretary of State, Mr Rogers.

Mr Pompidou will have the advice of his Finance Minister, M. Giscard d'Estaing, an Foreign Minister, M. Schuman. As the talks come less than two weeks after the Group of Ten discussions in Rome, they can now be vital for there is hope here that a breakthrough on currency arrangements relaxation of trade barriers may be achieved as a result of earlier meeting.

Mr Nixon will be anxious to hear President Pompidou's impressions of Mr Brezhnev's visit to France and his discussions with the French Minister of Foreign Trade, Mr. Pompidou's attitude to a mutual reduction of forces in Europe, and breakdown in Franco-US operation in suppressing "bandits" was also crop though French sources stressed that the latter position was not a priority.

Australian welcome

News of the settlement welcomed in Government circles in Canberra, but Foreign Affairs Minister, Nigel Bowen, was without formal comment until he received details of the agreement.

RADIO-TV ANNOUNCER

TRAINING—Be the first to be trained in the art of the announcer. The course covers all aspects of commercial stations. Keep your present job and learn to jockey, newsreading, sport reporting, TV and commercial announcing in your spare time. Through North America's foremost Announcers' Training Course, new ideas in radio and TV are yours. Find out if you can qualify for your voice test. 01-486 6337 anytime, anywhere. National Institute of Broadcasting (Canada)

TELEVISION

RODDY McMILLAN comes back as Edward Boyd's tough private eye in a Scots-produced series with good precedents: this one's in among the potato-picking toughs ("The View from Daniel Pike," BBC-2, 8.30). Donald Pleasence back again in "Play for Today"—this one about the inside of American big business ("Skin Deep," BBC-1, 9.20). Elsewhere ("This Week" ITV, 9.30).

BBC-1

9.30 a.m.—12.0 Schools, Colleges: 9.35 Merry-go-round: 10.0 Science Extra—Physics: 10.25-10.45 Maths Today—Year 3: 11.0 Watch! 11.18 Twentieth-Century Focus: 12.30 p.m. Dressmaking: 12.55 Play: "Trespass": 1.30 Pogles' Wood: Watch with Mother: 1.45 News: 2.5-2.55 Schools, Colleges: Scene: 4.15 Play School: 4.35 Hector's House: 4.40 Blue Peter: 4.55 Adventures of Dr Dolittle (cartoon): 5.44 Magic Roundabout: 5.50 News: 6.0 Nationwide: Your Region Tonight: 6.50 Tom and Jerry: 7.0 Owen MD: "The Weekenders," part 2: 7.25 Top of the Pops: 8.0 It's Awfully Bad for your Eyes: 8.15 Cliff Michelmore on Bournemouth and Autoral: 9.0 News:

9.20 Play for Today: "Skin Deep," with Donald Pleasence, Sylvia Kay, Donald Douglas: 10.15-10.24 Hours: David Dimbleby: 11.20 Conflict at Work: Reforming Wages: 11.45 Weather:

WALES (as BBC-1 except)—2.30-2.50 p.m. Dysgu Cymraeg: 6.0 Wales Today: Nationwide: 6.50 Heddidi: 7.15-7.35 Tom and Jerry: 7.45-7.55 News: 8.00-8.15 Weather: Close.

ENGLISH REGIONS—6.0-6.50 p.m. Nationwide: Look North: Midlands Today: Look East: Points West: South Today: Spotlight South West: 11.47 Regional News:

BBC-2

11.0-11.20 a.m. Play School: People at Work: 11.35 p.m. Computer Education in Schools: 7.5 Within These Four Walls: 7.30 News: 8.0 Europe: Young children in China and East and West Europe: 8.30 The View from Daniel Pike: with Roddy Macmillan: 9.20 Show of the Week: Vera Lynn with The Young Generation: 9.30 News:

ITV

LONDON (Thames)

10.20 a.m. 12 noon Schools: 10.20 Drama: 11.0 Time of Your Life: 11.17 Primary French: 11.30 It's Fun to Read: 11.40 Captured Years: 1.40-2.42 p.m. Schools: 1.40 Picture Box: 2.0 World Around Us: 2.21 My World: 2.32 Father d'Arce: A Self Portrait: 3.10 All Our Yesterdays: 3.40 Origami: 3.55 Yoga for Health: 4.25 Tea Break: 4.55 Flipper: 5.0 News: 5.50 News: 6.0 Today: Eamonn Andrews: 6.35 Crossroads: 7.0 Thursday Film: "Ten Gentlemen from West Point" with George Montgomery, Maureen O'Hara: 9.0 The Lovers: 9.30 This Week: 10.0 News: 10.30 Cinema: 11.0 Wrestling: 11.30 Scotland Yard Mysteries: 12 midnight Women in a Man's World: Helen McEachrane, administrative officer.

ANGLIA

11.0 a.m.—3.32 p.m. Schools: 4.15 Women Today: 4.40 Houseparty: 4.55 Heckle & Jeckle: 4.55 Crossroads: 4.55 News: 5.0 News: 6.0 News: 6.50 News: 7.0 News: 7.30 News: 8.0 News: 8.30 News: 9.0 News: 9.30 News: 10.0 News: 10.30 News: 11.0 News: 11.30 News: 12.0 News: 12.30 News: 1.0 News: 1.30 News: 2.0 News: 2.30 News: 3.0 News: 3.30 News: 4.0 News: 4.30 News: 5.0 News: 5.30 News: 6.0 News: 6.30 News: 7.0 News: 7.30 News: 8.0 News: 8.30 News: 9.0 News: 9.30 News: 10.0 News: 10.30 News: 11.0 News: 11.30 News: 12.0 News: 12.30 News: 1.0 News: 1.30 News: 2.0 News: 2.30 News: 3.0 News: 3.30 News: 4.0 News: 4.30 News: 5.0 News: 5.30 News: 6.0 News: 6.30 News: 7.0 News: 7.30 News: 8.0 News: 8.30 News: 9.0 News: 9.30 News: 10.0 News: 10.30 News: 11.0 News: 11.30 News: 12.0 News: 12.30 News: 1.0 News: 1.30 News: 2.0 News: 2.30 News: 3.0 News: 3.30 News: 4.0 News: 4.30 News: 5.0 News: 5.30 News: 6.0 News: 6.30 News: 7.0 News: 7.30 News: 8.0 News: 8.30 News: 9.0 News: 9.30 News: 10.0 News: 10.30 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THIS IS THE TWIN SEAT ON TWA's AMBASSADOR SERVICE IN ECONOMY. NO OTHER AIRLINE HAS IT.

It's a small part of TWA's total Ambassador Service to America.
First we threw out the old seats.
Then we threw out the old everything else.
Now you'll find new colours, new fabrics, new carpets.
In fact, new everything else.
Including one or two other things

exclusive to TWA passengers.
You'll be offered the choice of three meals in economy, for example.
Most airlines give no choice.
And you'll have the choice of two films.*
Most airlines show one, or none.
Then we have a new terminal in New York (for TWA passengers only).

You can be through it, having cleared customs and immigration inside twenty minutes.
Most airlines still share one old terminal.
Even so, we feel it's our twin seat that may tempt you to try TWA next time you fly to America.
But we're sure it's our total Ambassador Service that will make you fly back with us.



It can be three across, like the seats on other airlines' 707's.



But it can also be two across, unlike the seats on other 707's.



It can even be a couch when the plane's not full.



Alternatively, it can add a new dimension to in-flight entertainment.



TWA's Ambassador Service to America starts December 1st.
*TWA requires us to make a nominal charge for in-flight entertainment. And for alcoholic beverages in economy class.

Kosygin puts trade blame on 'sick' US

Moscow, November 24

In a report on the present five-year plan, Mr Kosygin said to the Supreme Soviet today: "The industrial and agricultural output of the Soviet Union will exceed the present level of the United States by the end of 1975."

Mr Stans, US Commerce Secretary, on a Soviet trade tour and a visitor to the session, heard the Prime Minister refer to his country as the sick man of the capitalist world.

Kaunda calls for snap poll

From our Reporter

Lusaka, November 24

President Kaunda has called for snap elections on December 20 for 12 or 119 National Assembly seats — six of them forfeited yesterday by Mr Kapwepwe, former Vice-President, and five other leaders of his United Progressive Party.

Mr Kapwepwe is the only leader of UPP not detained without trial under Dr Kaunda's special security powers, which mean that the party was recently unable to field a single candidate in nominations for 11 local government byelections.

The ruling United National Independence Party will fight for all six seats left by the defections from Government ranks as well as six others held by former members of Zambia's second opposition party, Mr Nkumbula's African National Congress.

The latter switched to UNIP and their seats were declared vacant — as were the UPP seats — under a law requiring such action when members change party allegiances.

Arrogance

But UNIP is unlikely to have things all its own way. Three contests will be in Western province where ANC members, before changing to the ruling side in 1968, defeated three UNIP Cabinet Ministers. And in Southern province, Kaunda's men will be battling for three seats in what is still believed to be an ANC stronghold.

The "Times of Zambia" today accused UNIP of campaigning in Lusaka and towns on the Copperbelt with such arrogance and impunity that it leaves party with no integrity or respect whatsoever.

This is a reference to party pickets barring housewives and others from entering markets, shops and buses unless they can show UNIP membership cards now on sale.

The newspaper continues: "In Zambia we often talk about democracy. We also talk about our philosophy of humanism and our profound principles of respect for the individual. Just what respect do UNIP organisers give anybody? The answer is absolutely none — not even to the Head of State."

Cambodia appears to be emerging for the moment as the principal battlefield of the Indo-China war.

There has been a marked increase in Communist activity in recent weeks. Military sources in Phnom Penh regard this as the start of a dry season offensive intended to put maximum pressure on Cambodia. The trouncing of a Cambodian battalion on Highway Six and heavy attacks on units near the capital are seen as part of a Communist strategy designed to show just how easily they can take the initiative when they want to.

Nevertheless, the feeling here is that the significance of the Communist offensive and of the renewed South Vietnamese drive should not be exaggerated simply because of the relative quiet elsewhere.

In the first place the level of fighting was bound to go up with the end of the monsoon, as it did last dry season when major battles involving thousands of Cambodians and South Vietnamese were fought on Highway Seven in November and December, and on Highway Four in January.

In the second place, there were about 20,000 South Vietnamese troops operating in February and March, at one point touching on the Chup

The South Vietnamese High Command in Saigon officially announced yesterday that thousands of troops had crossed into Cambodia to attack Communist sanctuaries. A spokesman said that "at least two divisions" each of 10,000 men, were involved, but other sources put the number taking part in the operation at 45,000. PETER OSNOS reports on the situation as seen from Phnom Penh.

Cambodia moves to the centre stage

plantation, the headquarters of three Communist divisions. This week three battalions of South Vietnamese paratroopers have again moved into the Chup plantation.

While the renewed drive comes as no surprise, military sources here acknowledge that the 10,000 South Vietnamese already in Cambodia have been reinforced earlier than had been planned because of the country.

For example, it is expected that the North Vietnamese Ninth Division, which was diverted to Highway Six to stop the Cambodian's wet season

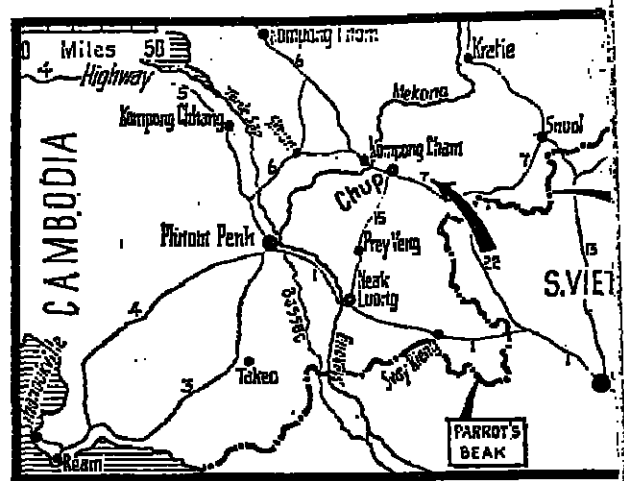
advance there, will now swing back to face the South Vietnamese, allowing the Cambodians to reopen the road without much of a fight.

Around Phnom Penh the scale of activity is higher than it was a year ago but there does not appear to be any Communist attempt to surround the city and launch a major assault.

The Communists have been able to shell Phnom Penh airport a number of times but there has been nothing comparable to last January's devastating sapper attack in which much of the Cambodian air force was wiped out.

There is no ready answer to the puzzle of why the Communists have been hitting positions so close to the city, apart from the fact that their proximity makes them especially dramatic as propaganda. But their successes in these incidents should not be seen necessarily as the prelude to bigger actions around the capital.

For experienced North Vietnamese regulars, it is a relatively simple matter to topple a Cambodian position or surround a battalion from time to time, inflicting casualties and then withdrawing. By this reckoning it is the show of strength that



matters, not the seizure of territory.

To take and hold Phnom Penh would require more men than the Communists can spare, and might even be impossible, given the range of available American air power and South Vietnamese forces.

One side effect of the increased action has been to put an end to reports that the Cambodians might try to go it alone without the South Vietnamese, with whom relations are correct but personally uneasy.

One senior American diplomat here commented: "Lon Nol is trying to get as much support as he can now from President

Thieu. The Cambodians realise that they don't have the capability to assure the security of their territories."

Nonetheless the South Vietnamese and Cambodians are likely to work together where absolutely necessary, the most part the Saigon will be responsible for the tenuous areas extending from Snuol to the Parrot and east of the Mekong. Cambodians will operate the western part of the country.

This has essentially been a division of responsibility across the border.

Tanzania seizes passports

From our Correspondent

Dar-es-Salaam, November 24

More than five hundred Asians were prevented from sailing to Karachi last night after Tanzanian exchange control officers had boarded the liner Sirodhana, searched baggage and seized passports. The vessel sailed with only 125 out of the 650 who had booked passages.

Travelers leaving Tanzania are allowed to take personal possessions worth only £100 unless permission has been obtained from the Bank of Tanzania. More, said those barred from sailing are Tanzanian citizens of Asian origin. The bulk are believed to be from the Ismaili community.

One newspaper said the community, which numbered 23,000 at the beginning of the year, had been asked to leave Tanzania by the spiritual leader, the Aga Khan. Officials said they found more than a hundred refrigerators, air conditioners, and cookers among the baggage, and scores of other items which were not personal effects. It was believed these articles were being taken out of Tanzania for sale.

One girl aged 16 was said to have included an air conditioner worth £200 as part of her effects, in addition to a gas cooker, a refrigerator, and other items. Many intending passengers having heard rumours of the raid, did not turn up for embarkation. Some are said to have flown out of the country, abandoning possessions rather than face possible charges of contravening exchange control regulations.

Since the take-over of rented buildings in April — which hit the Asian community hardest — about 10,000 Asian citizens and others are believed to have left permanently. Taking into account those who have said they were going on holiday, but do not intend to return, the total is probably double.

Hiroshima bomber's log sold

From ADAM RAPHAEL: Washington, November 24

"Just how many Japs did we kill? I honestly have the feeling of groping for words to explain this — or I might say: My God: what have we done?"

These doubting words, written in half-light by the copilot of the Enola Gay, the B-29 bomber that dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, are part of a flight log of the historic mission that was sold yesterday for nearly \$15,000 at the Parke Bernet Galleries in New York.

Bidding for the cloth-bound, hand-written notebook started at \$10,000 and rose quickly in thousand-dollar leaps to \$37,000 before it was knocked down to the Carnegie Bookshop of New York as the co-pilot, Mr Robert A. Lewis, listened intently.

The log, written half in ink and half in pencil when the ink ran out as the B-29 flew towards Hiroshima in the darkness before dawn on August 6, 1945, had been suppressed for many years because information in it was considered to be top secret.

Here are excerpts: "At 0730 we loaded. The bomb is now alive and it's a funny feeling knowing it's right in back of you. Knock wood. We started our climb to 30,000 feet at 0740. Well folks, it's not long now."

"Right now we are 25 miles from the Empire and everyone has a big hopeful look on his face as we are approaching our IP (initial point for the bomb run). We turned off our IP and had about a four-minute run on a perfectly open target."

Tom Ferebee [the bombardier] synchronised on his briefed AP and let go.

"We then turned the ship so we could observe results and then in front of our eyes there was without a doubt the greatest explosion man has ever witnessed. The city was 90 per cent covered with smoke, and a large column of white cloud, which in less than three minutes reached 30,000ft. and then went at least 50,000ft."

"I am certain the entire crew felt this experience was more than any one human had ever thought possible: it just seemed impossible to comprehend. Just how many Japs did we kill? I honestly have the feeling of groping for words to explain this — or I might say, My God: what have we done?"

Students stay out

Zagreb, November 24

Forty thousand students joined the university strike in Croatia today, in spite of Communist resolutions that the strike was "a knife in the back." Reports said 25,000 were boycotting lectures at Zagreb University, and 15,000 elsewhere in the province.

The strike began on Tuesday to back demands that Croatia be allowed to keep more of the foreign currency earned by its industry and tourists resorts. Most of this currency has gone to the Federal Government.

Strike leaders posted guards at the university to keep non-striking off the campus, and held meetings all day in lecture halls. Signs such as "Workers, make the Balkans a zone we are with you," and "Unity with workers" decorated the buildings.

But the leaders of workers condemned the strike. "We ask students to continue their normal work," said a statement by the Croat unions and Socialist Alliance. The party committee of Z. said the strike could help "unitarian, centralist, separatist forces."

Students in other centres have opposed Zagreb moves.

● In Belgrade it was said that Presidents Tito and Ceausescu had ended their day political talks at Rumanian town of Timisoara. President Tito, at a dinner, gestured that they should twice a year. The Ruman leader repeated his plea for peace and cooperation as "security and parcel" of Europe security. — UPI and Euro



Even ducks need export cover

It's tough selling ducks overseas. We wouldn't make it harder by selling them without ECGD credit insurance. Mr J.H.B., sales director, seen here with some of the birds his company exports.

Three million ducks a year are raised on this 900-acre farm in Lincolnshire. Many of them are exported in oven-ready form to the Caribbean and the Far East. Day-old birds are also sold overseas, to many countries in Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

Bad debt risk

With this very wide spread of markets, ECGD cover is vital. The company insures with ECGD against 90-95% losses through overseas buyers' default or insolvency, and sterling transfer and other political risks.

"It was an automatic decision to insure with ECGD," says Mr J.H.B. "Bad debts would soon slow our expansion."

Sales take off

The company has expanded export sales rapidly, from £20,000 in 1968 to £200,000 this year, despite tariff barriers and import restrictions in many overseas markets.

Selling overseas is rarely easy. But it's made simpler and much less hazardous with ECGD insurance. Get the full story from your local ECGD Manager or write for the free comprehensive leaflet to Information Section, ECGD, Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2.

Export Credits Guarantee Department: London, Bedford, Belfast, Birmingham, Bradford, Bristol, Cardiff, Crawley, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle upon Tyne, Nottingham, Reading, Sheffield.

ECGD
Export with an easy mind

Malaysian neutrality plan to be disclosed tomorrow

From ROBERT REECE: Kuala Lumpur, November 24

The special meeting of ASEAN (the Association of South-east Asian Nations) Foreign Ministers here on Friday will probably decide the future of Malaysia's ambitious proposal for the neutralisation of South-east Asia.

Following a suggestion accepted at an informal gathering of the Ministers in New York in September, the meeting is also expected to issue a declaration proclaiming South-east Asia a "zone of peace and neutrality."

There is no formal agenda, but it is understood that the Malaysian Prime Minister, Tun Abdul Razak, who has made neutralisation the feature of his new-look foreign policy since he took office in late 1969, is expected to spell out his ideas in detail. Indonesia's Foreign Minister, Mr Adam Malik, will talk on the repercussions for the area of China's entry into the United Nations.

Summit

Thailand — which will be represented by former Foreign Minister, Mr Thanat Khoman, as a special envoy of the new "revolutionary Government" — has already circulated a draft of the declaration, which is now being studied. With the possible exception of Singapore, the Philippines will play the least active role at the meeting, although their Foreign Secretary is expected to develop President Marcos's proposal for an Asian summit conference: an idea which has had a chilly reception from other ASEAN Governments so far.

Other questions which are certain to be discussed are President Nixon's visit to Peking, the situation in Indo-China, and the future of Taiwan.

Malaysia's real interest in neutralisation is to normalise

relations with Peking, in the confidence that its increasing influence will not threaten the security of the area. Of all the ASEAN countries, Malaysia has developed the closest contacts with Peking in recent times, but it would like some guarantee that the Chinese will abandon their support of the Communist Party of Malaya, whose small guerrilla army is the principal threat to Malaysia's own security.

Malaysia's credentials as a non-aligned nation are fairly good. American influence here has always been minimal and there has never been any question of military or economic assistance.

On the other hand, both the Philippines and Thailand have strong links with the United States, and neutralisation would necessarily mean the phasing-out of US military bases and the end of bilateral aid. Although the "betrayal" of Taiwan, and President Nixon's projected visit to Peking, have shaken their confidence, they are not at all ready to make the leap of faith towards neutralisation. Moreover, the coup in Bangkok will almost certainly reverse the recent trend towards developing contacts with China.

Benefits

Indonesia and Singapore have benefited from massive inflows of US capital in recent years and are in no hurry to establish relations with Peking. Both Governments talk about "regional security" as if they would be unhappy to see the scrapping of SEATO, which has been both the principal guarantee and the instrument of US involvement in the area.

In order to satisfy the lowest common denominator of five very different views on neutralisation, the "Kuala Lumpur declaration" (as it is already

being called) must be general and non-committal. However, the Malaysians see even this as a positive advance on the situation two years ago, when the idea would have been inconceivable.

The onus is now on Tun Razak to clarify what he means by "neutralisation" and to suggest a practical framework and procedure for its implementation. In the unlikely event of agreement on a practical formula, the next step will be to win the approval of the Governments of Indo-China and Burma and to make a formal approach to the United States, the Soviet Union, and China, who have been mentioned by Tun Razak as the necessary guarantors.

Fears

However, South Vietnam and Cambodia have already expressed fears that their position will be compromised by the declaration, and so far there has been no response from North Vietnam, whose attitude must be decisive. Indonesia is the only ASEAN country with representation in Hanoi, but there is no evidence of any diplomatic initiative either from or through Jakarta.

Chou En-lai has said that neutralisation is in accordance with China's policies, but this has aroused American fears that — as with Bandung — the Kuala Lumpur meeting may provide Chinese diplomacy with a useful weapon.

The timing of the meeting is very interesting but the Malaysians may well find that they have outdistanced their neighbours in developing relations with Peking, and that neutralisation can only exist as a vague and distant ideal. The other ASEAN Governments will probably prefer to hedge their bets — and neutralisation seems to be yet another good idea before its time.

Leeds bait for Spanish tourists

By DENNIS BARKER

YOU MAY freeze if you try something at Sgahopedel-Sol, but at least you will not be expected to stay in a hotel consisting of 14 unmade beds and a cement mixer. Because, Señor, old boy, we just don't do things that way over here. That, in essence, is today's clarion call from the British Tourist Authority to Spanish tourists who will be flocking to the BTA hopes—be helping to reverse the Tourist Drain.

It's not a completely one-way traffic now, because last year Britain had over 67,000 visitors from Spain. But the overwhelming volume of traffic is still in Spain's favour.

This situation the BTA is determined to attack, and the first wave of 30 commandos will go over to Spain next week. They will be called "Come to Britain" salesmen, their civvy occupations will vary from hotel managers to sports-holiday organisers, English language school proprietors and rail and tourist boards staff.

They will talk to travel agents and tour operators from all over Spain and—if previous experience is anything to go by—come away with between \$4 millions and \$5 millions' worth of business.

The BTA is convinced that what is supposed to be Britain's chief disadvantage—the weather—simply will not matter. "You wouldn't try to sell detached cottages in Spain," it says, "but try to sell the weather in England. You sell other things," said one BTA man.

"The Spanish could not care less about our weather any more than other people from hot climates do—the sun is no holiday for them."

High on the sales agenda will be theatres, concerts, the opera, festivals, Shakespeare country, golf, horse-racing, and even football. All of which are probably magical to Spaniards tired of getting brown at Sgites and may account for the 23 per cent increase in the number of Spanish visitors this year.

The BTA man said: "We will be aiming at the right kind of Spanish—middle class and upper middle class, not the sort of Spaniard who will probably come over here as a waiter on a working permit. The sort of Spaniard who can afford to come to this country and do the things he wants to do."

Package holidays for Spaniards will be two to three times as expensive as the average in the other direction but may well have popular bait, such as split trips between London and Leeds with football tickets for Leeds thrown in.

A friend of the country

Nan Fairbrother, who died on Tuesday night, aged 57, an advocate of positive policy in the countryside in particular with her book, *New Lives, New Landscapes*. It was published just under two years ago, and was so

OBITUARY

Highly rated that it had been elected for the W. H. Smith Literary Award, due to be announced next month.

She was born in Leeds and married to a London doctor. She began her environmental writing career fairly late in life. Two earlier books, *Men and Gardens* and *The House*, had not been in this field.

However, with her transition, her attitudes sharpened and the campaigner emerged, full of less, full of verve. Recently, bringing her illness, of which she was fully aware, she visited America, where her book was enthusiastically received, and then worked frantically in an 11-out effort to finish another manuscript, with ideas for special action.

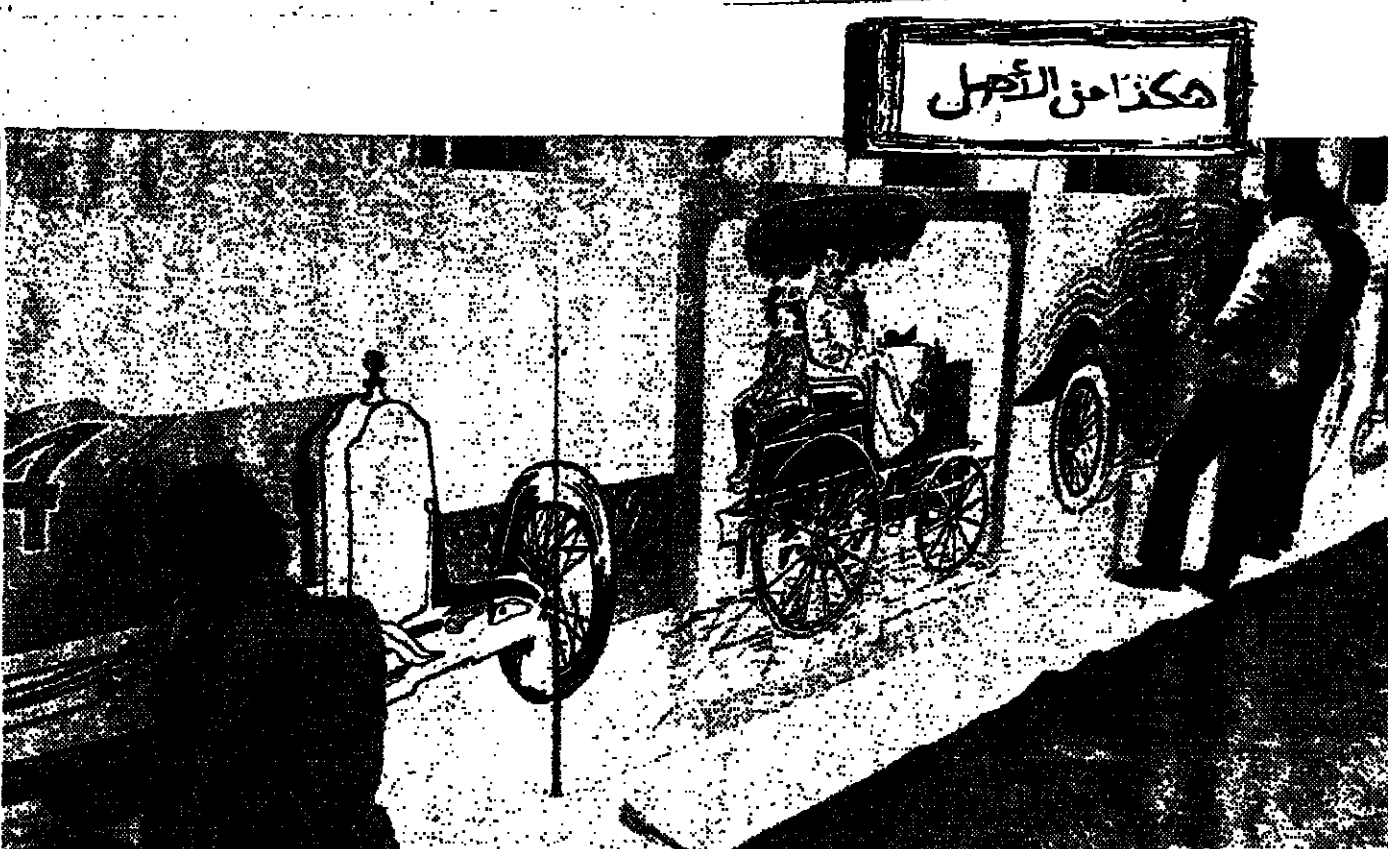
A further publication on housing in the Penguin Connection series for the non-academic world, is in the pipeline.

"I would really put her down as one of the great women of our century," says Mr. Derek Joyoy, president of the Institute of Landscape Architects, which made her an honorary sociate in April.

Bus tokens protest

The National Union of Small Upkeepers yesterday protested against a scheme by the Midland Red Bus Company to use travel tokens to people using a brand of firelighters, worth one penny would be given with the firelighters and could be used for fares.

Mr. Tom Lynch, president of the National Union of Small Upkeepers, said: "It is incredible that a public company should decide to interfere inside a retail trade. If this scheme is successful it can only lead to a large company concerned with prices."



Students from Hammersmith College of Art and Building painting a decorative mural, 120ft. long, which will be used to brighten a pedestrian subway at Waterloo Bridge, London. It depicts vintage and veteran cars

More facilities to help young London visitors

Significant improvement in the services available in London to young visitors is planned for next summer, the director of the London Tourist Board said yesterday.

At a conference in London, organised by the LTB, Mr. Rodney Scrase said that publications in several languages, giving details of the services available to young visitors, were already being prepared for next year. These would be widely distributed abroad by the British Tourist Authority.

A Youth Accommodation Bureau will also be available on Victoria Station and handbills will be distributed throughout the summer in established meeting places like Piccadilly Circus and Trafalgar Square.

Mr. Scrase said there would also be an extension of facilities—probably including camping

By our Travel Editor

and caravanning sites—on places like Hackney Marshes. The LTB would act as a central clearing house for all available information about cheap accommodation and would actively support the establishment of more emergency services.

The chairman of the English Tourist Board, Sir Mike Renig, said that this quick action was being taken to avoid any repetition of the criticism of London's services to young visitors which had been made last summer.

Mr. Scrase had said that last summer's difficulties were partly due to the lack of a permanent student accommodation bureau until late in May. By that time it was too late to publicise the service sufficiently to cover all incoming youth visitors.

A survey of the use of low-

priced accommodation by young visitors in London, commissioned in the summer from Mass Observation UK Ltd, revealed that 61 per cent of young people interviewed said they were sleeping in parks from choice—which seemed to be borne out by the fact that emergency accommodation in August tended to empty whenever the weather was fine.

But the report concluded that a meeting place in central London was urgently needed where young people could leave their luggage, meet people, and find out about existing accommodation and even make bookings on the spot.

Speaker after speaker, however—from Mr. Anthony Grant to Sir Anthony Millward, chairman of the London Tourist Board—emphasised that no British Government was likely to subsidise a low-cost student hotel in central London.

IRA film ban stays

By our own Reporter

Granada TV has abandoned its attempts to show the "World in Action" programme "South of the Border" which included interviews with members of the IRA Provisionals. The programme had been banned by the Independent Television Authority without being seen and was subsequently shown to the press.

Granada's decision, announced last night after a meeting of the board, has dismayed members of its production staff.

The company's statement said: "We accept absolutely the right of the Independent Television Authority to stop the transmission of this or any other programme. There will be no further showings of the film and we are informing anyone who wishes to see it that although we regret disappointing them we can see no purpose in further screenings."

Government support plan to 'split' research councils

By ANTHONY TUCKER, Science Correspondent

Controversial proposals for restructuring Government support for science research and development were published yesterday as a Green Paper. The document, comprises the Rothschild report on the management of Government research and development; the Dainton report on the Research Councils; and a brief Government statement accepting the Rothschild recommendations. Those amount to a direct attack on the existing Research Council structure.

The new structure would embrace two principles: first, separation of "basic research" and "applied research and development"; second, all applied research and development to be paid for on a "contractor-customer" basis.

Such contracts would include a 10 per cent "surcharge" to provide for the continuation of fundamental or curiosity-driven research not directly related to contracts.

"All applied R and D laboratories sooner or later engage, overtly or clandestinely, in research which is not directly concerned with the programmes commissioned by the customers, and it is a good thing that they do," says the Rothschild. This segment of work should, however, be quantified.

The report defines the end products of applied R and D in three ways:

1—A PRODUCT (e.g.: a tank, an antibiotic, a nuclear reactor, an artificial hand, or a drought-resistant variety of wheat).

2—A PROCESS (e.g.: for the manufacture of an antibiotic).

3—A METHOD OF OPERATION (e.g.: to prevent collisions in the Channel, speed delivery of mail, give advice).

Using this basis, Rothschild says that customers—Government departments or others—could be "direct" in that they require the specific end product, or "indirect" in that they represent, even in an oblique way, the user of a product, process or method of operation.

The customer, most often a

Government department, would be quite free to place his contract where it would be most advantageous and not necessarily with a Government laboratory.

An analysis shows that, most Government R and D expenditure is in Ministry of Defence and Department of Trade and Industry laboratories, together amounting to £463 millions a year.

This expenditure, like the massive problems of nuclear and aerospace research, is not analysed. There is no mention either of any major plan for restructuring existing laboratories.

Instead, Rothschild concentrates on that fraction of the expenditure of the Research Councils which falls within the arbitrary definition of "applied research." This amounts to less than £18 millions a year.

The Science Research Council and the Social Science Research Council would remain "for the time being" within the administrative structure of the Department of Education and Science.

But funding for the other three Research Councils—Medical, Agriculture and Environment—would be split, responsibility for applied research being transferred from the councils to Government departments.

Support for "basic research"

would continue to fall on the Department of Education, all other research would depend on "contractor-customer" port.

In the first year of the "regime" the total amount of support for the Research Councils should not be less than 10 per cent a year. The change of support would necessarily mean a reduction in Rothschild argues.

It would, as senior members of the Research Councils have said on many occasions during the past year, mean a splitting of research. In spirit, it is sharply at odds with the Dainton recommendations, which see the need for closer cooperation between the various research councils and suggests a new Research Council Board.

While the essential independence of the councils would be retained and the advantages of research support unbroken, arbitrary divisions between "basic" and "applied" work, the new board would be responsible for coordination and for ensuring that the requirements of Government departments were properly met.

Once, just the knowledgeable few owned a Saab 96. Word gets around.

Remember when the only cars you saw on the roads were the old, slow, noisy, and responsive ones? Well, now you can see the new, fast, quiet, and reliable Saab 96. It's a car that's been designed for what it's meant to do—reliable, fast, and economical. And it's a car that's been designed to last. So the road holds no more surprises. That's why we've added all kinds of improvements to the Saab 96. Like the new, more powerful engine. And the new, more comfortable seats. And the new, more spacious interior. And the new, more powerful brakes. And the new, more powerful suspension. And the new, more powerful steering. And the new, more powerful everything. So the road holds no more surprises. That's why we've added all kinds of improvements to the Saab 96. Like the new, more powerful engine. And the new, more comfortable seats. And the new, more spacious interior. And the new, more powerful brakes. And the new, more powerful suspension. And the new, more powerful steering. 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Yes indeed, within any of the C.C.H. group of hotels, from as little as \$5.90 per week, or \$2.90 nightly.

A Capital weekend in Edinburgh at the Royal Balmoral Hotel, North Bridge, from £2.00 per night, or £4.00 fully inclusive, a choice of eight golf courses.

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Parents still hospital outcasts

By our own Reporter

Parents still cannot visit their children on the day they are to have an operation at 25 per cent of hospitals in the London metropolitan region, it was claimed yesterday. Mrs Margaret Belson, chairman of the National Association for the Welfare of Children in Hospital, also claimed that there had been "virtually no increase" in the number of beds for mothers who wanted to stay in hospital with a very young child.

She was opening the ninth annual conference of the association. She added that visiting on operation day was banned in a third of the provincial hospitals.

Professor Eric Stroud, Professor of Child Health at King's College Hospital Medical School, admitted that doctors sometimes forgot to consider the emotional responses and behaviour of children. "But we have made great advances," he said. For instance, his hospital unit always tried to ensure that the mother of a premature baby was allowed to touch her baby, hold it, and even through an incubator, every day.

"We have made it a rule that the incubator must be opened and the mother can hold her child's hand, however ill the baby is," he said. Nine hospitals in the Midlands were yesterday given permission by the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board to provide a service for private outpatients. The decision has to be ratified by the Department of Health.

More bread prices rise

The country's largest bakers, Rank, Hovis, McDougall, yesterday followed other leading bakers by putting up on bread prices from December 6.

Allied Bakeries announced a similar increase last week. On Wednesday Spillers followed suit.



The Duke of Edinburgh meeting anglers during a visit to sites of the proposed Lee Valley regional park near Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire, yesterday

Lecturer in court

A woman lecturer who was arrested on Tuesday appeared in court at Clerkenwell, London, yesterday together with eight others who are accused of conspiring to cause explosions. She is Pauline Josephine Conroy (25), of Powis Square, Kensington, London.

All nine are charged with conspiring with Ian Donald Purdie and Jack Leonard Prescott, at present on trial at the Central Criminal Court. Six of the defendants, four men and two women, were making their 14th appearance, having been in custody since August. Four of them made applications for bail which were refused.

A number of the accused face further charges of being in possession of two submachine-guns, ammunition, explosives, and electrical equipment.

Few worried by violence

By OLIVER FRITCHETT

Explicit sex and bad language worry ITV viewers more than violence and politics, according to the annual report of the Independent Television Authority, published yesterday.

An ITA survey showed that less than 5 per cent found scenes of violence distasteful. Greater concern was felt about violence, however, when young children might be watching. In this case, 16 per cent felt that violence was of greater concern than swearing.

Eighty-six per cent regarded ITV as politically impartial and the vast majority of those who did not were of the opinion that the bias was in favour of their political opponents, of either main party.

Only one person in 10 could recall any instance of unfair coverage of social or industrial events by ITV.

On the advertising side, the

most criticised commercial concerned a detergent campaign about "understains." Even so, it was "distasteful" to only 2 per cent.

Other advertising campaigns criticised were Egg-for-Breakfast, Kennomeat, and P.G. Tips. These three also figured among the most popular commercials, along with the reciting children of Heinz, the Home Pride four graders, Oxo's Katie and Philip, and the Penguin Biscuit.

The ITA ruled during the year that the expression "News Flash" was unacceptable in any commercial.

The report includes a further plea for a second ITV channel. A single service, restricted broadcasting time, and the need to be self-supporting from the sale of advertising time all tend to restrict programme range, it says.

Magistrates 'must justify judgments'

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

Magistrates, who deal with 98 per cent of criminal cases in Britain, should give reasons for their judgments. This is a main recommendation of a Law Society memorandum to the Home Office, published yesterday. The society says this is not a "jobs for the boys" plan to increase numbers of legally qualified magistrates.

Taking advantage of what was described as "the present atmosphere of criticism" of the law, the Law Society says it is no longer acceptable for verdicts to be delivered without reasons. "The ability to decide on the merits of a case ought to be accompanied by the ability to express the reasons on which the decision is based," the society said.

But, at the same time, the society recommends that the rarely used facility allowing a magistrate to justify his decision before a criminal appeal judge ought to be stopped. This does not, the society says, provide the chance for magistrates

to amplify judgments that are under question—"this so-called right of justices to appear on criminal appeal is insupportable as it cannot be appropriate that they function on one hand as a court, and on the other as parties to a dispute."

For the convenience of lawyers, as well as accused, the memorandum says that magistrates should keep notes of the points in the evidence presented. Lack of such notes, and of verbal reasons for judgments—sometimes make it hard for lawyers to know whether in appeal against verdicts. But in any case, as a safeguard against injustices, the Law Society says that divisional courts and Crown courts (which hear most appeals from magistrates' courts) should enjoy "powerful, embracing jurisdiction" over the lower courts "with a minimum regard to procedural technicalities."

Other proposals are: 1. A man standing as surety for an accused person should be allowed to appeal against the forfeiture of the money fixed (or the alternative of prison). (The society says that a surety may have put up money in good faith, and taken all possible precautions, but still the accused fails to appear in court. It is "unsatisfactory" that the surety now has no chance to comment—the forfeiture is automatic.)

2. A successful appellant should be able to recover his costs from public funds unless "he has been the author of his own misfortunes"—an innocent person who ran away from the police, or refused to answer reasonable inquiries is, for example, given to define the exception.

3. In 1970, the memorandum says, 4,741 legally aided defendants were ordered to pay £218,355 in costs. There is no right of appeal against the amount ordered to be paid. The Law Society says that this is a "situation which should be remedied without delay."

The memorandum, which will go to the Home Office and the Lord Chancellor's office, is part of the regular flow of schemes from the council of the Law Society for improving legal practice. Some schemes are accepted, but usually only after a series of protests. Five recommendations from the society's revenue group were incorporated into last spring's Budget.

'Shrine' at home of accused

When a man accused of sexual assault was shown a raffia cross in prison "his face went red, his eyes bulged, and he started to chuckle in a strange manner," a detective told Jersey's Royal Court at St. Helier yesterday.

The cross had been found in the car of Edward John Louis Paisnel when he was arrested. Detective Sergeant John Marsh said.

Earlier, the detective had told of a secret room at Mr Paisnel's home. In an alcove covered by a red curtain he found a large knife with a wooden blade hanging over a glass chalice. There was also a china teapot behind the curtain. "It gave me the impression that it was a shrine or altar," he said.

Mr Paisnel (48), a father of three, of Bouibot, Grouville, Jersey, faces charges of sexually assaulting two boys and two girls between 1960 and last year. He is pleading not guilty on all counts.

Detective Sergeant Marsh said that in prison Mr Paisnel was asked about a secret society of his "friends." He had replied: "I will not involve anyone. They can come of their own free will. I have been a member for a very long time—since before 1949. I do not care if I get one, five, or 10 years in prison. I am still alive, eating, breathing, you cannot shoot me."

Detective Sergeant Marsh said that detectives had found in a wardrobe in a secret room a wig, track suit and cap. When shown the raffia cross, Mr Paisnel said: "My master would laugh long and loud at this." Asked to touch the cross Mr Paisnel declined, saying that there was a much more powerful emblem than that. "Our cocoon is getting larger. Your world is shrinking," he said.

The hearing was adjourned until today.

Problem in terms of will

By our Correspondent

THE DIFFICULTIES of continuing to carry out the terms of a 130-year-old will which left £2 a year in trust to each of 18 "sober Manx widows" were explained in the Chancery Court at Douglas yesterday.

Mr Neil Hanson, counsel for the trustees, said that the will of Mrs Margaret Christian Quilliam, made in 1840, made provision for the payment of £24 a year to 12 of the "oldest and poorest sober Manx widows" living in Castletown, Isle of Man.

They also had to attend service at the parish church "at least once every Sabbath day if able to walk there."

Mr Hanson said that the present trustees were now having difficulty in finding suitable persons to benefit, and they wished the money to go to other charity funds with priority for widows and orphans of clergymen.

Deputy G. E. Moore adjourned the application and pointed out that the court had to be satisfied that the rather archaic terms of the will could not be carried out.

Inquiry on 'banned' insurance cover

By our Motoring Correspondent

The Department of Trade and Industry is to look into the case of a London private taxi driver who this week was issued with an insurance certificate on the Union Accident Company, which was prohibited, under Section 68 of the Companies Act 1967, from taking on any new business from November 17.

NRC Insurance Brokers, which operates from the same address as the National Radio Car and Private Hire Association and which had 200 members insured with Union Accident, issued the certificate on Tuesday. It said it did so in the belief that this was still possible. But the Department emphasised last night that the provisions of the Act apply to renewal or variation of existing policies.

No one was available yesterday at Union Accident, whose name has been withdrawn from the register at Companies House. It seems that this makes it impossible to sue the company for damages, since the writ must contain the address.

Plea to train park wardens

By PETER HILDREW

Wardens in national parks should form part of a wider profession of countryside recreation managers, embracing forest rangers, nature conservancy officers, countryside park staff, information officers, and National Trust wardens, the director of the Countryside Commission, Mr Reg Hookway, said yesterday.

Mr Hookway, who was addressing the annual conference of the Association of National Park and Countryside Wardens at Rydal Hall in the Lake District, said that there appeared to be no strategy on pay, training, conditions of service, or career structure in this field. But in a major review of objectives now under way, the Countryside Commission was looking at management needs for the developing countryside recreation system.

Mr Hookway said the commission would be carrying out a survey of people employed in countryside recreation work because nobody really knew how many there were. There was also a need to assess standards, and he suggested that there could be a national certificate of competence in recreation management, which entrants to the profession would take at the age of 18 or 19, progressing later to higher practical qualifications.

There was virtually no evidence at all of in-service training for wardens, he said, and communication among them was "appalling." In the United States, national parks kept in touch by circulating information bulletins.

He thought there should be several training centres, including possibly a small residential school providing in-service training for 100 to 200 people a year. The men from the old parks are rapidly becoming outnumbered in the association, they founded by the new breed of countryside park managers.

Mr Hookway said that 48 new countryside park schemes have now been approved, and the Countryside Commission recognised them only if there was a warden for each park. But it was "horrified" by some of the people local authorities have been appointing to these posts—with the backing of Countryside Commission funds. Some of them appeared to have no experience that was relevant to their job of managing the landscape and guiding people recreation.

Mr Hookway appeared optimistic about the prospects for national parks. There had been a change of political tides at the top, he claimed, with politicians today more conscious of the parks than they were five years ago. But both major political parties were looking to devolve power from Whitehall towards new local authorities, on whom good will the national park would depend. Those concerned with the parks would have to take this into account.

It was not a trend which commended itself to Christopher Hall, secretary of the Ramblers' Association. National parks, he said, should be national and not local, but in spite of their title they were, in fact, being run by county councils.

Mr Hall went on to attack a compromise agreement which has been reached between the Countryside Commission and the County Councils' Association on the future of the parks.

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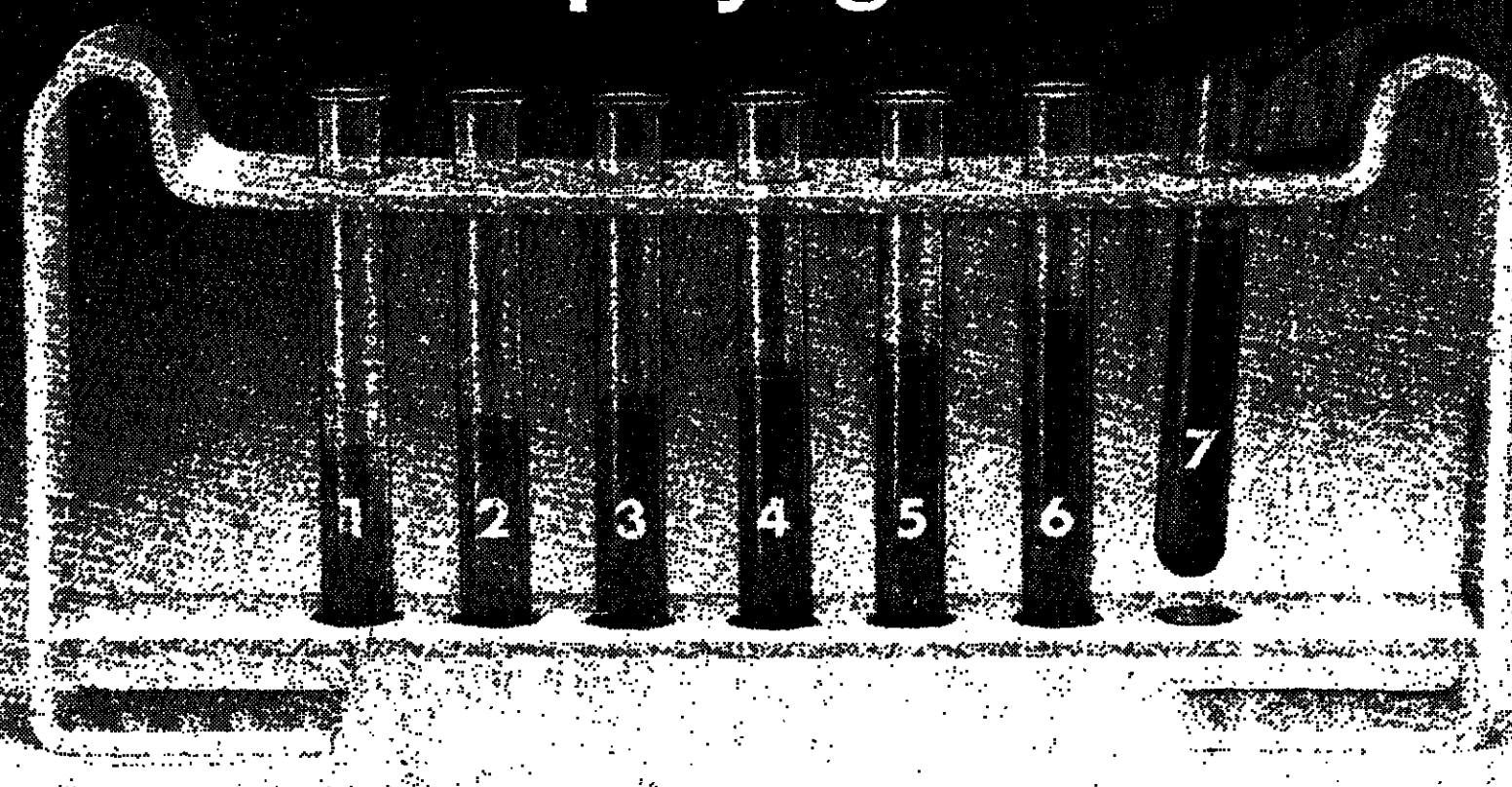
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Both sides to blame in 17-month strike

By KETH HARPER

A Government inquiry into the 17-month dispute at Fine Tubes Ltd., Plymouth—one of the longest and most bitter in recent industrial history—knocks the heads of both sides together and suggests they negotiate a settlement quickly. But whether the report is going to have any effect at all remains to be seen. The firm said last night it had no comment beyond "it is not going to change our policy."

Most of the knocking is done on the head of the American management. The inquiry, under the chairmanship of Professor A. D. Campbell, says that the underlying cause of the strike was "the culmination of a long period of poor industrial relations." It blames the company for missing opportunities for desirable and useful consultations and negotiations with the unions.

To enable the necessary talks to take place, the report suggests that the unions should remove pickets and give instructions for the suspension of "blacklisting" while talks begin. In exchange for the removal of duress, the employers should not only meet the unions, but give an assurance beforehand that it will negotiate a settlement.

Of the original 165 union members who went on strike, 49 are still regarded as being on official strike, although all the strikers were dismissed by the company. The dispute began on June 15 last year when members of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and the Transport and General Workers' Union walked out after their pay claim had been finally rejected after eight months in procedure.

What angered the unions particularly was that after rejecting the claim the management offered a 9 per cent increase retrospective almost to the date the strike started. The inquiry team states: "There is now a serious issue as to whether the company's claim was more than met by the company shortly after the beginning of the strike."

Professor Campbell felt there was enough evidence for the company to have avoided the strike by approaching the unions for a meeting instead of waiting for events. He is critical of a letter to employees worded in "peremptory terms" which gave workers one day in which to decide whether to be dismissed by the company or return to work.

In the view of the committee, the first essential is that the 49

'Artists replace Church'

Creative artists had replaced the Church as the leaders of public morals, Mr Michael De-la-Noy, director of the Albany Trust and the Sexual Law Reform Society, said in Bracknell, Berkshire, last night.

"One good reason why people are taking notice of what artists have to say is because such people do not try to ram their beliefs down other people's throats," he told a public meeting.

Artists tried to share an experience of life by sharing doubts, and without preaching in terms of absolute morality. Nor did they threaten those who disagreed with them with hell fire.

He said he meant creative people of every kind—painters, musicians, sculptors, and architects as well as authors, actors, and playwrights. Books and the theatre had the most obvious influence on the way people were thinking and behaving.

He added: "It is in the realm of sex that the so-called permissive society is perhaps most inappropriately named, for if it is true that patterns of heterosexual behaviour are changing, it is not because permission has been granted, but because the means have been laid on for sexual experiments which were not possible in previous generations."

Toolmakers back at work

By GEOFFREY WHITELEY

Shop stewards who have been leading the Coventry toolroom strike—estimated to have cost at least £50 millions in production losses—yesterday put the final seal of approval on a settlement formula agreed earlier this week between the employers and their union. The 8,000 toolmakers, whose strike had already made more than 20,000 other workers idle, will be back at work this morning.

Only two of the 350 shop stewards at a one and a half hour meeting in Coventry voted against the peace plan which, among other proposals, includes a guarantee of an extra £1.78 in basic pay rates by the end of February. The agreement was explained, later by shop stewards to meetings of the toolmakers.

Mr Jim Griffin, district president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, said he was satisfied that the union

negotiators had emerged with an agreement which would safeguard the wages and conditions of the toolmakers. Mr Andrew Boyle, the union's district secretary, said he thought the satisfaction of the negotiators with the deal would be reflected on the shop floor.

The toolmakers return with an undertaking by the employers that the system of increasing their pay each month will continue until the end of February. New plant and company agreements will then be negotiated and a joint committee of unions and management will watch each agreement to ensure that there is the minimum of fluctuation in toolmakers' earnings in different companies.

The agreement has apparently satisfied the toolmakers who, for 30 years, enjoyed special protection for their

THOSE CONCERNED with the plight of the severely disabled feel that what they need is a good opposition. But it is not fashionable to oppose measures to alleviate disability. Cripples, like the blind and the deaf, have to struggle through forests of nodding, sympathetic heads to find real support.

The next few months will see if there has been a genuinely radical change. Last month, part I of the 1970 Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act came into force. It compels local authorities to make complete registers of all the disabled in their area. Next week, the last dormant, technical provision of the Act becomes law. In April next, or soon after, the Government and the councils will undertake their first major review of the effects of the Act.

There are three million people in Britain who are handicapped in one way or another. Of these, 1.2 million are (a) very severely disabled, (b) severely disabled, or (c) appreciably handicapped. One million of these people are over 50, and 8,200 of them live alone.

"Which?" magazine discovered in a sample analysis last week that 66 per cent of the disabled were not registered with their local authorities and were thus unaware of the many services which the councils offer free.

New law may be ineffective, says Michael Lake

Stark facts on the disabled

Yet 93 per cent of these people were in touch with their local doctors.

There is clearly a gap here which must be filled by closer liaison between doctors and local authorities, provided that the patients approve. Doctors could fairly easily cope with the stereotyped cards posted free to their councils notifying the officials of a new case of disability in need of help.

The compulsion now on councils to make proper registers may bring about some sort of system along these lines.

The Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital calls in council social services workers in every case where a patient is likely to be discharged in need of home help.

In Harrow, the director of social services, Mr George Thomas, plans a meeting with his local BMA next month. In the meantime, he is working with local doctors and with the local Department of Health and Social Security, seeking information from the doctors' files—where approved and from the lists of those

on supplementary benefit. He has circulated letters to every household in the borough.

The Rev Nicholas Stacey, who is director of social services in Ealing, has a team of 1,000 voluntary workers circulating letters and calling on households. Before this latest survey there were 3,150 disabled people on his books. He now has 750 more.

Liverpool has discovered 6,000 hitherto unknown victims in the past year, and Manchester, with an intensive search, is adding to the register at the rate of 12 a day.

Salford had an especially bad record, particularly where money was concerned. Last year, Salford was spending 3p per head on disabled people, against Bath's 20p. But Salford's vigorous new campaign to unearth the missing disabled, with house-to-house deliveries of questionnaires, student collections, and immediate follow-up, looks like providing a momentum which will impel the council to spend more.

The Central Council for the Disabled is especially pleased with Salford, but the deputy

director, Mr George Wilson, is concerned that some councils are sitting too snugly on their initial efforts, or are not going beyond the letter of the law—that is, compiling a register and doing nothing else.

The problem is that, while part I of the Act is compulsory, part II is at the discretion of local authorities. They are empowered to adapt houses, provide home help, install telephones, or improve transport, but they are not strictly obliged.

Clearly, some councils are going to be appalled at the amount of work they uncover in making their registers, since scarcely any local authority has more than 50 per cent of the estimated disabled on its books. The temptation to ignore this work, as in the past, will be aggravated by the shortage of money and of staff.

The staff problem may be eased if local voluntary organisations collaborate more closely with the statutory authorities, as early replies to a questionnaire from the Central Council for

the Disabled encouragingly indicate. The Government is depending on community work for much of its social policy.

The money situation is more complex. The Secretary for Social Services, Sir Keith Joseph, is something of a hero because he has found something like £220 millions of new money to spend in the next four years. Last week, he estimated that expenditure on the disabled would rise by 25 per cent in the next two years, and this should be reflected in the biennial rate support grant from the Treasury.

But, as with part II of the Act, local councils have discretion. The rate support grant is calculated on a national basis. When the councils get their apportioned share they are not committed to earmark money to boost spending on the disabled by 12½ per cent a year.

Many councils find this extra money essential for keeping down the general rate. Money which the Government intends for the disabled may go on drains, or

higher wages. Much depends on the strength of the local ratepayers' and finance committees on the balance of the council.

Meanwhile, the council will have to move very fast to produce tangible evidence of reform in time for review around April. Findings will be fed into the next OGC decision on the rate support grant for the following years.

● Cumberland County Council social services committee is asking for an extra £24 next year, to spend providing more telephone sets, aids, adaptations for the handicapped, under the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act, 1970. The council also plans to expand its help service, at a cost of £20,000, for handicapped and elderly

services. Mr R. H. D. Perkins estimates that an extra £21,000 has already been allocated in the current year to services within the scope of the Act, which was adopted by the county in June.

The allocation sought next year includes provision for extra staff and for survey of need among disabled, which is expected to uncover substantially more than the 1,800 people already assisted under current policies.

Devlin advice on race reports

By our own Reporter

Lord Devlin, former chairman of the Press Council, suggests today that the objective in press reporting of race relations should be "to achieve a dish without any sauce at all and not to mind the absence of flavour."

Lord Devlin, in an introduction to a Runnymede Trust publication, "Race and the Press," says that the way to achieve this is for an editor to make for himself as dispassionate an analysis as he can of the problem. He should have a willingness

Cello girl gets fund backing

By our own Reporter

CARMEL RUSSELL, the girl aged 14 who was refused a grant by Dorset education committee, is now expected to be able to take up the place she was awarded at the Chethams Hospital School of Music, Manchester.

Chethams has formed a trust fund for her and is inviting subscriptions to add to the sums already promised. Mr Harry Vickers, the headmaster, said: "I am fairly confident that Carmel Russell will be with us after Christmas."

Many supporters of Carmel have promised sums under covenant for the four years she will be at the school. Mr Vickers said that her parents had received offers from many parts of the country, totalling £440 a year. She needs £263 a year for board and tuition for the time she is at Chethams.

Carmel, who plays the cello, is one of four musical children of a school caretaker at Shaftesbury, Dorset. One of the friends of the family, Mrs Joan Dunn, of Bridgwater, who helped to organise the promised finance, said last night that Carmel's mother has been getting apprehensive because the matter had gone on for such a long time but was now "very happy."

Carmel's elder brother has been awarded an instrumental scholarship at New College, Oxford, and a sister, aged nine, is said to be showing great promise on the violin.

Mr Vickers has said that the kind of disappointment felt when a local authority declines to assist with fees is frustrating and irritating. But there are more than 35 local authorities paying for children at Chethams. This will be emphasised in a programme about the school to be put out by Granada on the ITV network on November 30, in which Carmel Russell will appear.

ness to see both sides, "black fanatics as well as white."

"Behind them," he says, "there is on each side a hard core that is difficult to get at. On the one side it consists of those who bitterly resent the impact of what is foreign and strange and see it personified in colour. On the other side it consists of those whose only wish appears to be to find a corner of a rich land and make it as much like home as they can."

Nearest to each other in the centre were the multitudes whose fear was that, if white, they could be inconvenienced and displaced and, if black, kept in semibondage as second class citizens.

None of them, except the extremists, is committed to any sort of racial war and the surest way of securing a commitment by condemnation. I believe that the extremists are in a small minority and that the main battle is not between good and evil but between old and new ways. On each side there is a troubled heart.

This might be "too simple and comfortable a belief" but it was a good one for an editor to hold until his experience disproved it. "It is good if he can treat extremism as unrepresentative and make it rank accordingly."

The restraint, says Lord Devlin, must be on comment as well as fact. "This is perhaps the hardest cross for the press to bear. It is used to treating facts with respect but it rejoices in loud and uninhibited comment.... But the only safe rule for every editor is to send the brass right out of the orchestra and play it on the strings."

"Race and the Press," Essays by Clement Jones, Peter Harrison, Hugo Young, and Harold Evans. Runnymede Trust, 50p. Leader comment, page 12

Race case condemns 'Front'

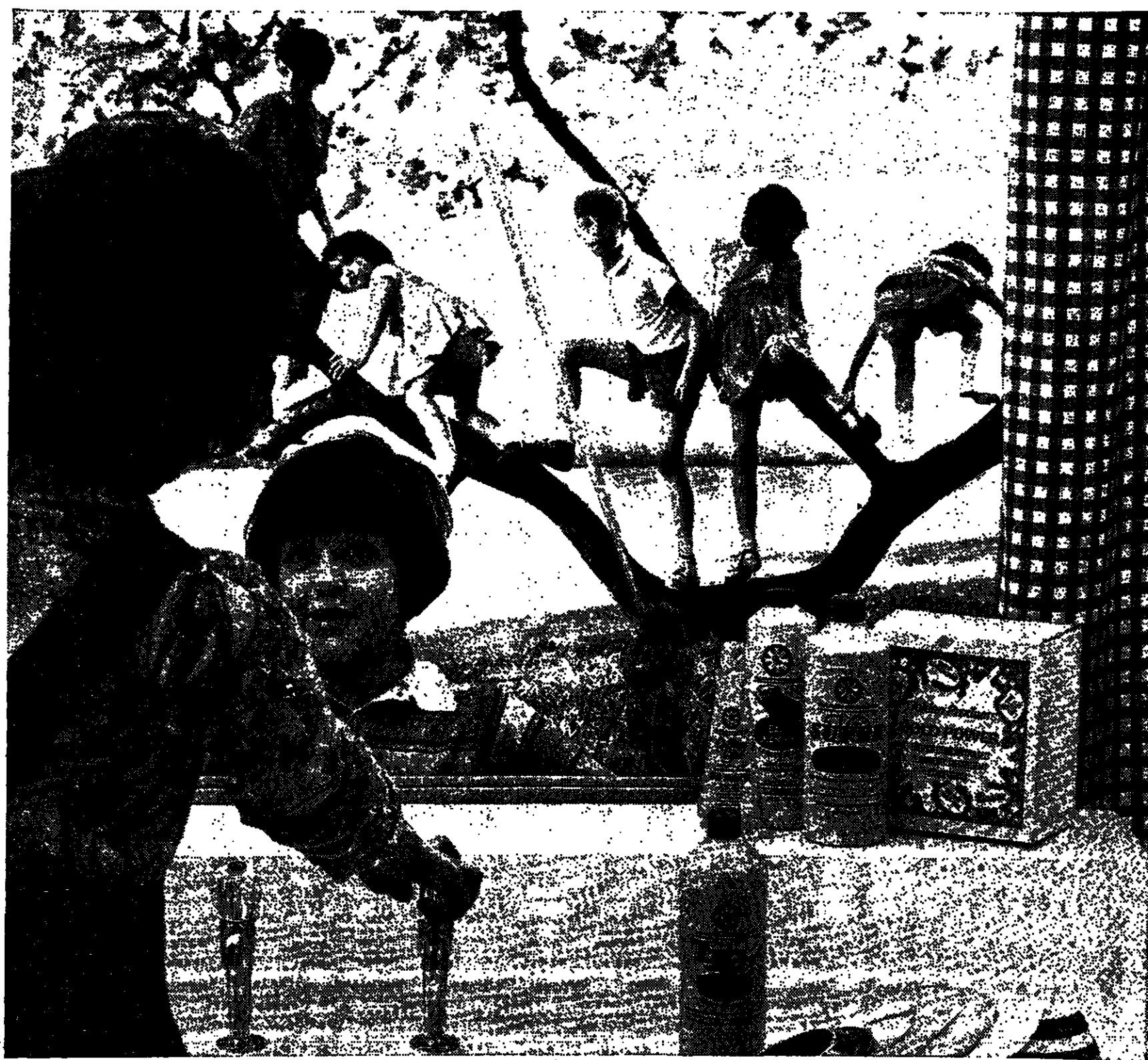
The actions of two members of the National Front concerning coloured foster children amounted to unlawful discrimination, the Race Relations Board has ruled.

The complaint was brought by Mr David Watson, aged 52, who with his wife has a foster home in Oakroyd Avenue, Potters Bar. It is against Mr P. W. Apple of Congessy Drive, Potters Bar and Mr K. Taylor of York Road, Hitchin.

Mr Watson had complained that both a public meeting which the two men organised, and a circular letter, were aimed at persuading local people to bring further pressure to bear on the Watsons.

The board said yesterday that both men were being asked for assurances that nothing of a similar nature would recur.

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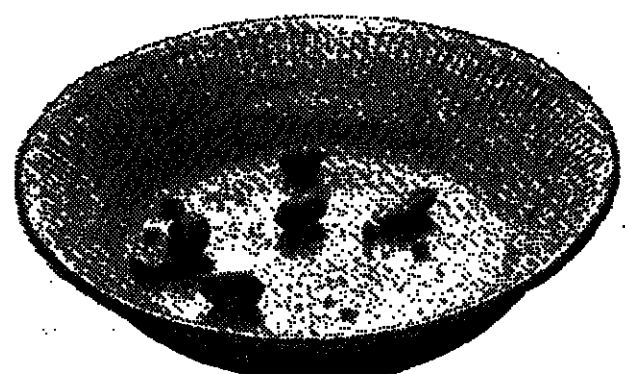
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And, like Thomas Osbert Mordaunt (1730-1809) once said: "One crowded hour of glorious life is worth an age without a name".



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Shippers of fine wines since 1887.

SOMEWHERE along the line in Sam Peckinpah's bloody and horrific *Straw Dogs* (Paramount, X), a character says: "I'm closer to rats than to humans. Their dying is my living. Rats is life." The gentleman in question is a rat-catcher but the quote seems somehow as basic to the film as the title, culled from Lao Tzu: "The sage is ruthless and treats the people as straw dogs."

David and Amy, a young married couple who come to live in a West of England that looks very near Cold Comfort Farm, are obviously straw dogs, pawns of fate, scapegoats for an evil world or what you will. David (Dustin Hoffman) is a quiet American mathematician who is bitterly resented by the locals since Amy (Susan George) was once one of them and mightily lusted over. The couple's existence is hanged in a cupboard. David is enticed out on a shooting expedition while Amy is brutally raped by a former lover and his friend; the pair shelter the village idiot, David Warner, accused of attacking another girl, and when the lynching party arrives David is forced to kill several men in an attempt to save him.

The film will unquestionably be bitterly attacked for gratuitous sexual and other violence, but I won't think there is anything gratuitous about it at all.

It is much more like an hysterical and obsessional scream at a fate which seems to make people do things that are directly against their better natures. Because David insists on being friendly to the natives, his wife is raped and he has to kill in spite of his stated hatred of violence. Because Amy is desirable, she has to suffer the consequences of wanting to be desired. One comes to the conclusion that this is simply a brilliantly made, thoroughly bad film from a director who has stepped out of his chosen genre (the Western) and attempted to carry with him the often mountebank myths he has been used to exploring.

Can a film be brilliantly made but thoroughly bad? Yes, I think so. The editing alone, hard and utterly certain of its effects, deserves the former adjective. So too does much of the acting, which is of an intensity rare enough to remark upon from a largely British cast. It is bad substantially because, in making its point, the film does not know where to stop. It out-hammers Hammer, even if it simply doesn't need to. It leaves a nasty taste in the mouth, but only numbs the brain. Its symbols are too much flesh and blood, and they bleed very red.

Agnes Varda's *Lions Love* (Paris Pullman, X) was first seen here at the 1969 London Festival, when its central question was fresher than it seems now. That question still applies—how can we carry on as individuals satisfactorily when the world is what it is?—but the film was made at the moment of the second Kennedy assassination which once burst into the film with stunning force. The fact that it is still highly watchable, and brilliantly decorated, is not least by Varda's superb star, a tribute to Miss Varda, an intuitive film maker who can't seem to help being original.

The world presented in personal terms is a menage à trois of rich drop-



Viva in Agnes Varda's "Lions Love"

Sam's cold comfort

New films reviewed by Derek Malcolm

outs (*Viva*, Jerome Ragni and James Rado, the authors of "Hair") who weave their fantasies and play their games against the background of summer, 1968. Into their lives comes Shirley Clarke, the real-life film-maker, who is trying to make a movie about Hollywood. The resultant chaos defies written analysis, except to say that its commentary on Hollywood, on superstars and on reality and illusion is often both perceptive and superbly funny. And all the time we watch that central question being posed in much more serious terms. *Viva* is colossal, deliciously making fun of herself. The rest you'll either love or hate. It's just the kind of extemporary collage of American life that's all the better for being in the hands of a foreigner.

Godard's "Vent D'Est" is released in this country for the first time under the auspices of Politkino, who started to distribute independent films in 1969, when this film was made, and are now organising a club where they can be shown. Information about the club, a brave venture these days, can be obtained from 01-584 2735. Information about the film can best be gleaned by seeing it. It is Godard

making, not a political film, but a film politically. Which is very different. Scripted by Godard and Daniel Cohn-Bendit, it starts off as a Marxist Western, stops halfway to criticise itself and then issues a strident call to the barricades. The cast includes Anne Wiazemsky, Gian Maria Volonte, and Glauba Rocha, the Brazilian film-maker.

Those who have seen "British Sounds" and "Le Gai Savoir" will know what to expect. Godard attempts to draw a parallel between political repression and bourgeois film-making. But in doing so he still manages to suggest that the attitudes of the bourgeois film-maker is at his finger tips. Just occasionally it is possible to say that the movie is beautiful, moving and witty. It is not what he wants at all. But that is his dilemma. He still makes political films whether he likes it or not.

Drive, he said (X) (Classic Pictorial) is Jack Nicholson's first film as director and made by the same company who put out "Easy Rider," "Five Easy Pieces" and "The Last Picture Show." Peter Bogdanovich's new marvel Richard Round wrote about from New

York. It is a slightly confusing movie in that it tries to say rather more about the present ills of young America than it, or we, can easily digest. But it is directed with some sensitivity and precision, and is at least totally honest about its commitment, which is a change for a film so smartly made.

It follows the progress of two room mates on campus, one the star of the basketball team (William Tepper) who is beginning to wonder whether scoring in games and with birds is enough, the other a radical (Michael Margotta) who is determined to opt out from the start. In the end one chooses compromise, the other doesn't. Drive, the film says, but look where you are going. Don't give up the responsibility for your own existence.

Some of the scenes, notably those involving Karen Black, girlfriend to both of them, are extremely observant, rather in the closing sequence manner. But it is the closing sequence that really hits home. The radical, making a final almost demented gesture, runs into the laboratory nude and lets loose the animals used for tests. As he is dragged away by doctors and police he shouts: "I'm right, and I'm sane." Somehow one takes the point that he is being locked up because of it.

Lawrence Turman's *The Marriage of a Young Stockbroker* (Carlton, X) tells the simple story of a man who becomes a lecher because his life is humdrum and his wife uncertain about the pleasures of the flesh. His wife finds out and the couple almost split before a happy ending is tacked on to the end as if nothing that went before was really meant. A pity, since the film, though obviously literary in origin, observes the wretched fellow with some cunning. There is an hilarious scene when he (Richard Benjamin) goes to a blue movie in San Francisco, thinks the earthquake is beginning but discovers a gentleman abusing himself in the next row. Joanna Shimkus plays the wife somewhat wanly, as if she knows the film is going to peter tamely out. It does, but not before more than a modicum of amusement on the way.

This leads very nicely into *Naughty!* (New Victoria, X) which discusses what is available for the lecher now compared with Victorian times. As usual with this sort of heavy breathing report on pornography, past and present, it's the quotes from those involved in the trade that leave abiding memories. Man in raincoat: "They're letting it all into the open, so that wives will have to keep on their toes." Girl in blue film: "Yes, it's dirty. But in a nice way, etc. etc." There's an interesting definition of soft porn—no erect male organs, a visit to the Wet Dream Festival in Amsterdam; a peep at a blue movie being made and copious enactments of Victorian hypocrisy. It gives the general impression that we have advanced somewhat since those days and quotes quite interesting sources to prove it. Like the dreadful instruction of mother to daughter on wedding night: "When it starts, hold tight to the bed and remember it happened to the Queen."

COVENT GARDEN

Philip Hope-Wallace

Swan Lake

A NUREYEV NIGHT at the Garden is now what a Melba night must have been for our grandparents. Just as it was said you didn't want Melba singing "Comin' thru' the rye" when she could sing "Bel raggio," so with all respect to modern choreographers, it is in the grand classical-romantic Tchaikovsky riles, the noble bravura prince parts that one wishes to see the flying Russian. In this very well trimmed "Lac," with almost all of Frederick Ashton's emendations and additions sheer gain, though one has to wait until act three for the real earthshakers and even if Mr Nureyev was not flying his highest on Tuesday, his assurance and as it were hidden strength, to say nothing of the unforced impact of the characterisation are most impressive.

Strong too is the word for Monica Mason's Swan Queen; I don't mean "brawny" exactly but it is right that a swan, which is not an owl or a dove, should be a pretty sney kind of bird, not all archducal melancholy and swooning. A swan can break its arm with its wing they say. I look for strong "batterie" in an Odette, an assured developé and found them both. Miss Mason's long limbs and especially the alacrity of her profiling in arabesque made a fine sight in the great pas de deux (quietly heartened). The second act solo was a little too cautious and vulgar that I am, I like a bit more meretricious gusto in the coda where the tombones let rip and the Swan picks up her feet like a cat on a hot tin roof. But the third act brought real excitement: Miss Mason brought off her 32 whip turns without a sign of flagging and scarcely a shift of ground and then crowned them, a moment later, with a perfect corridor of échappées; she and Nureyev between them bringing down the house in the coup de galop.

The details are now very good and plausible, the whole better proportioned in terms of dramatic timing. The cygnets, the Spanish dance and the Neapolitan duo were especially liked by a house which by its applause was felt to know it like a mass connoisseur.

review



Rudolf Nureyev: Covent Garden

RFH

Edward Greenfield

CBSO/Searle

FOR THE St Cecilia Festival—always a royal occasion at the Festival Hall, this year attended by Princess Anne—the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra was the visiting band. It is ten years since they came last for St Cecilia's day, and over that time they have settled down well after a period of changing direction in the late Fifties. Nowadays they have for principal conductor, Louis Fremaux, who provides a touch of Gallic glamour, as we found out quickly enough in Berlioz's *Corsaire Overture*. We may sometimes feel like claiming Berlioz as an Englishman at heart, but it was salutary to have a Frenchman showing otherwise.

It was a pity that more French music was not chosen (the orchestra has just made an admirable record of colourful Massenet pieces) but it was still a programme to put the players through their paces. Beethoven's dramatic *Scene "Ah perfido"* was a little unsettled, but then Elizabeth Simon had gallantly stepped in as soprano soloist at the last minute to replace Heather Harper, who was ill. The other soloist, John Lill, was anything but off colour. This was a formidable tough account of Rachmaninov's "Rhapsody on a Theme" of Paganini with Lill helping to tauten the players' responses.

For him it seemed that the darkly intrusive Dies Irae theme provided the key to the music rather than Paganini's tinkling tune. With articulation of extraordinary clarity Lill refused even to take the easy course. The 17th variation was made even grimmer than usual, and then instead of wallowing in the famous 18th variation Lill relaxed into simplicity almost as though the great melody was a folk tune.

It was only right that the CBSO should want to boast of the work of the Feeney Trust, which has commissioned so many new works for the orchestra. This time it was Humphrey

Searle's "Labyrinth," a thorny piece 20 minutes long, first heard last Thursday on the Orchestra's home ground. As the title implies, it is designedly a problem piece, mercifully clearer in its form than the composer's note provided, a kind of cross between rondo and variation form.

OXFORD PLAYHOUSE

Hugo Cole

Duchess of Malfi

STEPHEN OLIVER, at 21, had already written eight operas before his "Duchess of Malfi," given its first performance on Tuesday at the Playhouse, Oxford. The composer has himself written the libretto, and also plays the villain, Bosola. He is therefore already quite as much a man of the theatre as Rossini was at his age; the new opera shows none of the signs of lack of stage experience which has so often spoiled the works of respected English composers. Mr Oliver knows how to get through explanations quickly (the opening scene was less boring than I would have thought possible) he knows too when to still his generally busy orchestra to allow essential words to come through. He can even put over jokes by effective musical timing (though the rudest of all is, perhaps, deliberately shrouded in thick orchestration). Sudden cuts to new scenes are effectively used; and he has devised fine curtains for first and second acts, neither of them Webster's, but let that pass.

The music is always inventive and fluent, never at a loss for the appropriate texture or gesture to fit the stage action. It is not always strongly individual; it is almost as if Mr Oliver was better at imagining the structure and timing of an opera than at imagining the sounds themselves. Yet the scene between the Duchess's brothers in the second act was impressive, and there was musical as well as dramatic tension in the opening of the third act, with the mad-

men's play set as mock Monteverdi, an opera within an opera and also in the interview between Bosola and the Duchess leading up to the execution. The use of chorus behind gauzes to link scenes and point morals was faintly cinematic, but would have worked very well in a bigger theatre. I don't know how many people got the dramatic point which I failed to get in the recorded dance music heard from behind the scenes not quite in tune with the orchestra in front.

It is a powerful play, and demands powerful performance. Some of the cast were over-parted; but Jillian Crowe, a young professional, made a believable Duchess and Peter Reynolds and Keith Jones did very well as the Cardinal and Antonio.

TELEVISION

Nancy Banks-Smith

Documentaries

BY ONE of those "snap" coincidences both BBC and ATV showed documentaries on the theme "no man's island but you could have fooled me."

"Our children and the Germans" was a witty, biting account of a British school leaver's trip to Germany done in a snappy, slick, click-clack, snique which kept you alert, like snapping fingers or a flashing light. It was a great deal more digestible and enjoyable than the rather ponderous and soporific tour laid on for the children.

In the "Other side of the Medal," Duke of Edinburgh gold medal winners (an odd number in every sense, as if someone had backed out or bailed out) went to Kenya to work among the Samburu tribe in order, as Himself said, "To demonstrate in practical terms the real meaning of the brotherhood of man." Demonstrate it they did. Although they came from many different Commonwealth countries, the team got on remarkably well. The only trouble was it was the Samburu they were supposed to get on with.

Both documentaries demonstrated the ridiculously simple divisions between nations, language and food. The British children spoke no German, the young award winners not only spoke no Samburu they did not even have an interpreter. The shadow of the foreign sausage loomed uncommonly large over the schoolchildren. The Commonwealth team too to their own food and, therefore, never realised that the Samburu were starving.

Though the British children were often young devils the Commonwealth team were accredited angels, the devils definitely had the best documentary. The great fault I found with the "Other side of the Medal" was that after a few arrivals at the airport interview the young people were never again consulted for their reactions or conclusions.

I begin to find Casanova (BBC2) rather distasteful in its attitude to women. And I shall therefore do the unforgivable thing and find him funny. Last night having seduced three girls, two in a bedroom one in a cupboard, Casanova's last line of dialogue was "on the ceiling, never on the ceiling." He was, as it happens, referring to another matter altogether; but for a moment I thought he had invented a wholly original, not to say perilous position.

These notices appeared in later editions yesterday.

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WOMAN'S GUARDIAN

Tesco • road safety • bathrooms



The supersellers: in the second article of a four-part series on the supermarkets and the men who masterminded them LINDA CHRISTMAS looks at the rise of Sir Jack Cohen, the man behind Tesco

Market force



picture by Robert Smithies

SELF-SERVICE stores and supermarkets were slow in coming to Britain. The earliest experiment was carried out in 1942 by the Co-operative Society, but it was not until the mid 1950s that this particular retailing revolution got underway. Now the supermarket is everywhere, in high streets and shopping centres, in town and out-of-town, and constantly growing in size.

There can't be many people in this country who can claim never to have parted with their pounds at a supermarket check-out. For a great number this must happen, if not daily, at least weekly, at a store named Tesco, the king of the principal grocery companies. With nearly 800 branches, including 450 supermarkets, it has an annual turnover of around £45m more than its nearest rival.

The first Tesco self-service store (to earn the title "supermarket" it is necessary to boast at least 2,000 sq ft—some say 4,000—of floor space) opened in 1947 at St Albans. After a hesitant start they mushroomed. In those days the stores made their name on the cheapness of their goods.

Every inch of available space was crammed full of goods at cut-to-the-bone prices and the aim was to sell them as fast as possible so that the tiny profit on individual items would be made worldwide with high volume sales.

Now the operation is much more sophisticated—as one glance at Tesco's latest store at the Arndale Centre, Wandsworth, will show. There, its 30,000 sq ft, on two floors, is anything but brimful of groceries at rock bottom prices. For one thing the stores now sell not just groceries but household goods and clothes; for another, the huge amount of space makes it no longer necessary to pile the goods to the ceiling.

Also, the prices are not so cheap. A recent survey of prices, taking the average cost of brand leaders as a guide, showed that Allied Suppliers had the edge on Tesco.

As prices creep up so do the ambitions of the Tesco empire. They do not intend to stop at 30,000 sq ft, and were one of the first in the queue for planning permission to build hypermarkets.

How Sir Jack Cohen, the man behind Tesco, made it from owning an East End barrow with £5 a week profit to owning a company with a turnover of £238.4 millions and a profit after tax of £6.7 millions is the subject of a book by Maurice Corina published this week.

Sir Jack, the author would have us believe, is not just Jack-the-Slasher, but Jack the champion of the poor: "Best for less" emerged with one eye on the working class needy as much as anything. Whatever drove the son of a Polish emigré Jewish tailor on to

such dizzy heights, it certainly all started by accident.

Jack Cohen was demobbed at the end of the First World War, a young man of 20, to face the indignity of the dole. The rough and ready world of the street trader hardly seemed the natural milieu for the somewhat puritanical, non-smoking, non-drinking Mr Cohen, but it was a living. So, armed with £30 of surplus Nazi stock—golden syrup and condensed milk—bought with his RAF gratuity, he headed for a Hackney kerbside. Looking around at his fellow traders, he noticed they were attracting customers with one item at a special rate, decided to sell all his goods at a special price, and hope that a high volume of sales would compensate. It worked.

Not only was Jack Cohen a natural salesman with a steady stream of persuasive patter, he also had a nose for a good buy. There was nothing he couldn't shift from his barrow, Russian biscuits, Kellier jam with the parchment tops torn, unsweetened pineapple sold with a free pound of sugar, boiled sweets, elastic which would not stretch sold as tape.

Soon he was sharing his skill with other traders by buying more than he needed and selling it to others. This first step into wholesaling was his ticket from the barrow to the covered arcade, from the arcade to the first shop, and onwards and upwards.

At the outbreak of war Tesco (named after his first own label tea, sold from the barrow, and formed from the initials of the supplier, T. E. Stockwell,

and the CO from Cohen) had a turnover of nearly £2 millions through 100 shops.

The war brought an insatiable demand for things American, and Sir Jack was in a good position to provide it. He had been to America twice before the war and returned excited by what he saw—old warehouses and back street premises, bustling with people staggering under armfuls of goods. After the war he returned to find further excitement; the "supermarkets" were well lit, roomy and clean and the canteen sections making music than ever. Utopia for the retailer and just the job for the war weary, rationed, ever-queueing British housewife.

But the transition was not easy. Rationing, food shortages which



caused State bulk buying of essential goods, and building restrictions which prevented more than £100 being spent on shop face-lifts, were hardly ideal conditions in which to try new trading methods. None the less, Sir Jack opened his 600 sq ft self-service store. Turnover was the store was a success, but it consumed too much executive time and had to be abandoned. In 1949 he tried again. Trading profits were down, wages were up; self-service had to work. What care he if others considered his operation "cheap" compared with "high-class provisioners." He was in a fighting mood. By the mid fifties he was a paper millionaire.

However, there were several battles to be fought before Sir Jack could enjoy the occasional luxury cruise, the odd race horse, the Rolls-Royce, and hefty donations to charity. The most important being the successful fight against resale price maintenance and the unsuccessful fight against trading stamps.

It is interesting to note that the owner of the double-Green-Shield-on-Tuesdays-and-Thursdays stores, was their loudest opponent from the beginning. Sir Jack had no wish to part with 2 per cent of his hard earned sales in order to give stamps which caused more work for his staff and were liable to be stolen or misused. While it was only the small shopkeepers who succumbed to such a dubious customer attraction, he resisted. But the doubts persisted. All the major multiples were a party to a "gentlemen's agreement" not to use stamps without notifying one another. But in spite of this, "what if one major competitor decided to take them up in order to steal a temporary advantage by luring away customers."

On June 25, 1963 this happened. Fine Fare took to Sperry and Hutchinson's pink stamps. Protests were useless. Other multiples followed suit. It was now a matter of self-protection for Tesco, and Sir Jack sought out another American stamp company, King Korn, to fend off S and H competition. At the eleventh hour, however, he switched to Green Shield because they "offered an expanding chain of redemption centres where housewives could inspect goods and claim their gifts without using the postal service."

The decision was made, but Sir Jack Cohen did not change his attitude: "We are opposed to stamps, but if this is the way to compete we shall use them. I think the stamp companies will get rich in Britain." They did—just how rich can be seen on Saturday—but not exactly at Tesco's expense.

* "Pile it high sell it cheap," by Maurice Corina, Weidenfeld and Nicolson, £2.50.

Tomorrow: Fortnum and Mason

About the family

by BETTY JERMAN

WITH THE RETURN to the da afternoons instead of dark morning for children going to school Dr K. Pease, lecturer in social psychology, Manchester University, who was involved in the research which resulted in the Green Cross Code, wrote a timely examination of road safety education in the October issue "Mother & Baby." He thinks road safety education can do a great deal but by itself will not reduce child casualties on the road which mean that one child in every 25 born now will be injured in a road accident before the age of 15. Other considerations include parents campaigning for road improvements and more safe play areas and ensuring that fluorescent and reflective clothing or accessories are used. And, of course, parents must set an example of good pedestrian behaviour and explain exactly what they are doing and why.

But Dr Pease says, our knowledge of the child's understanding of the road situation is still incomplete. We tend to assume a child understands the different points from which a vehicle can come, its speed, or the amount of control the driver has over the vehicle. Research and road accidents show this is not so. Dr Pease is asking for parents to help by providing him with accounts of incidents which show how your children understand the road situation and the ways in which your children appear to have difficulty in learning road safety. Please send them to Dr Ken Pease, Lecturer in Psychology, The University, Manchester M13 9PL, marking the envelope Guardian. If you are unable to obtain a copy of the magazine, explaining his thinking in more detail, photostat copies of the article are obtainable (send foolscap stamped addressed envelope) from "Mother & Baby," 12-18 Paul Street, London EC2.

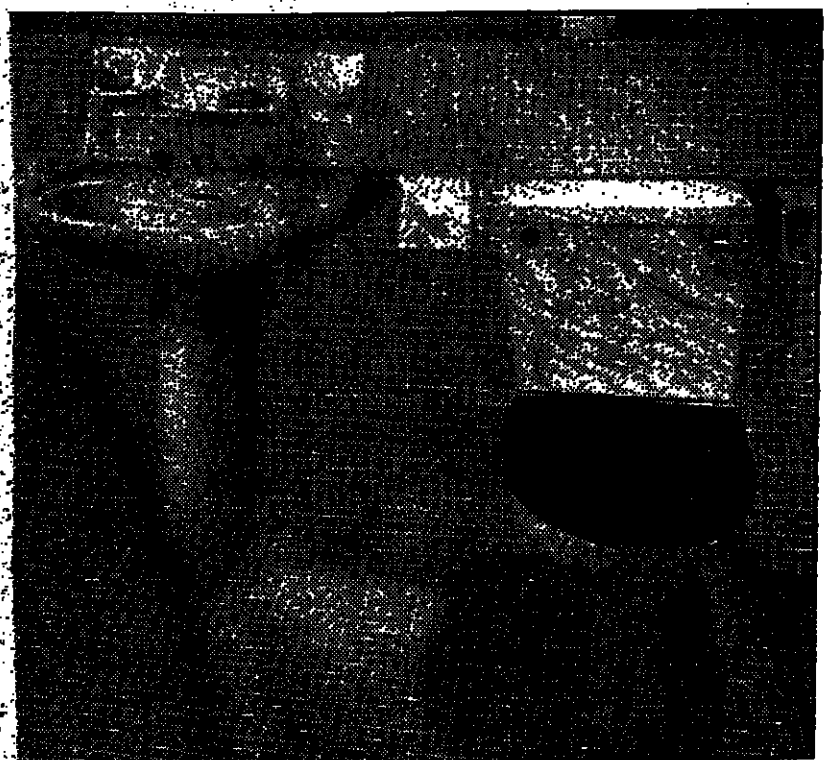
Meantime Dr Pease emphasises that parents and teachers need to be quickly using and teaching the Green Cross Code. RoSPA and the Automobile Association have produced a 32-page programmed learning book to help teach the code to 8 to 13 year olds. It elaborates the code with questions, answers, and colourful problems in picture form. "Crossing the Road" is available from bookstalls and by post from RoSPA, 52 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1, price 25p. AA members can obtain it from their local office price 20p.

Book list

"BOOK ONE," the shop that specialises in books only for children, has borrowed the bride's book idea and applied it to presents for children on a longer term and national basis. Just as brides can get too many tea-torials so 2-year-olds can be presented with "Alice in Wonderland." Under the system a child prepares a list, with the aid of the staff if required, and one copy is filed, one kept by the child. Anyone wishing to buy can visit, telephone, or write ordering a book from the list. The only charge for the service is 12p for mailing the book, obviously on top of the actual sale. Details from Book One Limited, 23 Temple Fortune Parade, Finchley Road, London NW 11.

The order of the bathroom by Richard Carr

Ideal Standard's marble-finished fittings



ACCORDING TO Britain's bath manufacturers next year's baths will be a blaze of colour—at least if you own your own home. For one of the curious class distinctions that still remains is that council house baths are usually white, though whether for purely bureaucratic reasons—"Madam, we just can't cater for personal tastes," or because white has always been associated with cleanliness is hard to say. But in the private sector the austerity which has for so long characterised Britain's bathrooms is on the decline and we are now entering a new and vibrant age.

The manufacturers have, in fact, got round to agreeing on a range of colours, including turquoise, primrose, pink, sky blue, avocado, and pampas, that can be matched to other equipment, so if you choose any of these there should be no difficulty in getting basins, W.C.s and bidets to match. The colours are also mild enough to fit easily into different decors. But the manufacturers are also experimenting with much stronger colours—at the moment confined to basins—that instead will determine how the rest of the bathroom will look.

The lead given by Armitage Shanks's basin in midnight blue has been followed by prototype basins in mid-night blue, chocolate brown, dark green, lemon, and tangerine yellow launched by Ideal Standard at the Building Exhibition.

Ideal Standard has also introduced a new marbled finish for baths, basins, bidets, and loos, in which the texture is applied to the clay before firing, a new technique which ensures an even better coloured finish than that obtained on ware which has to be fired and then spray painted and glazed and fired again.

Although colours seem to be the main preoccupation of bath manufacturers, they are also experimenting with new bath ideas. Also from Ideal Standard comes twin acrylic baths in a gun-metal finish that have headrests to enable the loving couple to watch a television suspended above their heads, as well as a cylindrical shower cabinet not unlike that recently designed by Lord Snowdon for British Steel, while Carron is showing a clear acrylic bath suspended on chrome-plated legs.

"Will baths be freed from the bathroom?" the company asks, "and be placed in open-plan bedrooms, or in the living areas as resplendent lounging receptacles piled high with cushions?" Whatever the answers, the significant point is both these exercises is the increasing and imaginative use of plastics.

Besides indulging in flights of futuristic fancy, however, the bath manufacturers are also getting down to the more serious business of improv-

ing the detailed design of their present ranges. Twyford, for example, now produce a single pedestal to fit a variety of basins, as does Ideal Standard which now has a cistern to match different loos, while Carron has introduced a polystyrene side panel that can be cut to fit a variety of baths. This is a sensible solution to the problem of having to make special panels for individual baths. The same company also has a new range of inset stainless steel sinks which have integral taps—thus avoiding the usual need to drill holes for the taps in the top itself—while Twyford has introduced inset basins that can be sealed with mastic instead of needing a stainless steel rim.

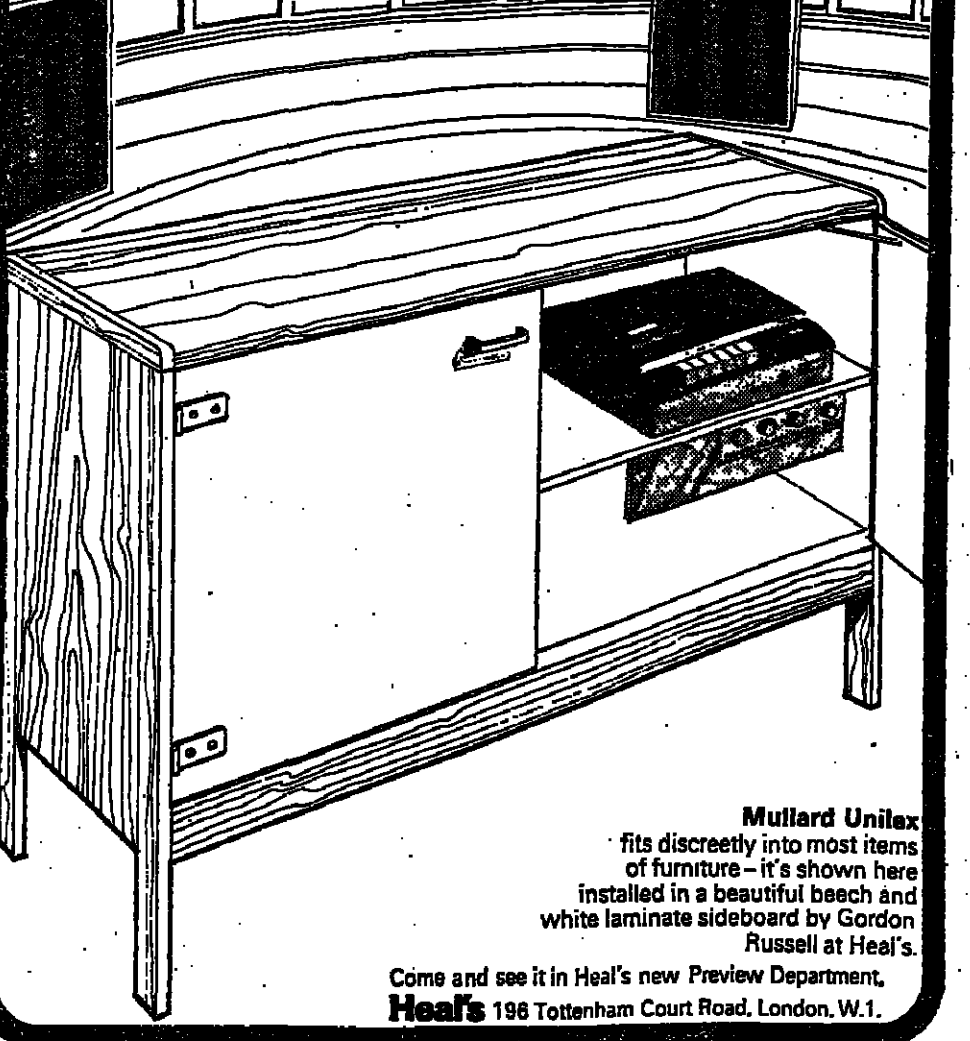
There is also a new self-rimming basin called Orbit from Armitage Shanks. Both companies have also improved their tap design, Twyford by introducing the Aztec range of chrome or gold plated taps which have a fairly squat profile, and Armitage Shanks by marrying features of previous models into the Nuastyle-2 range, which is somewhat taller. Both ranges have non-rising spindles which cut out a dirt trap and make the taps easier to clean. But the most radical rethink in tap design comes from Adamsez, whose new Admix range combines a unique, conically shaped form with technical advances in mixing hot and cold water at different pressures.

The moves to provide more efficient systems that require less maintenance and cleaning have also been applied to loos, and Twyford's new Celtic model, for example, is a completely integral, stubby unit that can be fitted flush to a wall, while the Waldon can be wall hung. Both can be used with low-level cisterns that can be concealed behind a panel, and both are ideas originally developed for the contract market and now available for domestic use. The same is true of the company's small hand rinse basin, a Design Centre Award winner first developed for the Barbican site in the City.

But what none of the companies has yet done is to develop a package deal complete not only with baths, basins, and loos, but also with accessories like soap trays, towel rails, mirrors, and bathroom cupboards. The reason usually given for this is that such items could not be produced in the long production runs the bath manufacturers are used to—but they could always be made in short runs by other companies working in close liaison. Indeed, the acrylic shower, soap tray, and towel ring just introduced by Adamsez is made in just this way. So besides working on colours, there are still plenty of other things the bath manufacturers can do to improve their service to the public.

Do-it-yourself Stereo by Mullard Unilex in a sideboard from Heaf's

Simply wire the modules and control unit (it takes approximately 30 minutes) to the underside of a shelf, connect the record deck, stereo tuner or tape recorder and two loudspeakers then sit back, relax and listen.



Mullard Unilex fits discreetly into most items of furniture. It's shown here installed in a beautiful beech and white laminate sideboard by Gordon Russell at Heaf's.

Come and see it in Heaf's new Preview Department, Heaf's 198 Tottenham Court Road, London, W.1.

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THE GUARDIAN

London

Thursday November 25, 1971

Too early to rejoice

Sir Alec may have pulled off a coup, Britain and Rhodesia will have cause to be thankful if that is so. But until the terms of his agreement with Mr Smith are published today a profound scepticism is still the only prudent reaction. The objects which a settlement must achieve are entirely contradictory. First, it must secure such political advancement for Africans that within a reasonable time they become a majority in Parliament. Secondly, it must satisfy the Rhodesian whites that it poses no threat to their interests. If it appears to pose a threat they will not work it. There was derisive laughter from the bystanders in Salisbury yesterday when Mr Smith was asked when majority rule would come about, and this seemed to symbolise the white Rhodesian attitude to the whole bargain. Given a change of heart in which race is forgotten and brotherhood is supreme, then African advancement and what the Europeans conceive to be their interests can be reconciled; otherwise not. It is hard to believe that Sir Alec has succeeded in an endeavour which has defeated so many before him.

Parliament will have to look closely at the terms and satisfy itself that there are no loopholes through which Mr Smith can escape back into the apartheid society he has been creating in the past six years. What, in particular, will guarantee the second of the five principles: that there shall be no retrogressive amendment of the Constitution? Sovereign states can do what they

like with their constitutions, as the Nationalist Party in South Africa will bear witness. Parliament will have to ask whether it is conceivable, given all that is known about the mood of southern Africa, that the Rhodesian minority would accept a transition from a white to a black majority without trying to reverse the course of events. If it is not satisfied it can hardly ratify the agreement.

One does not need to be blind to the faults of some of the African governments to question the basis of a settlement. On the contrary, failures elsewhere should be a guide to the future of Rhodesia. If the intentions of the white minority were right there could come about in Rhodesia, in the course of ten years or so, the sort of understanding and cooperation which would prevent either a collapse of law and order on the Congolese pattern or a flight of panic-stricken whites. But it should be remembered that successive Prime Ministers of Rhodesia — Mr Garfield Todd and the late Sir Edgar Whitehead — were thrown out for attempting to create such an atmosphere. Neither man was helped by the African leadership of the time. Racial antagonisms have hardened, not softened, since those days. It is not, therefore, only the terms of the agreement which have to be reckoned with but the attitude of those who are required to operate it. There are no grounds for optimism on either score.

What news of race relations?

When race relations are reasonably quiet there is a good case for leaving well alone. Ideally we should be living and working with people of a different race without thinking of it as a problem at all, and already there is probably more of this unforced natural tolerance than may be realised. It is not news, and one sign of improving racial harmony is when there is less conflict to report. Yet it would be dangerously complacent to suppose there is nothing to worry about. Racial prejudice is all too easily inflamed, and one way to feed it is by misleading publicity. This is the theme of a study of "Race and the Press" made by four journalist editors and published yesterday by the Runnymede Trust (at 50p).

What they suggest is that journalists should work to certain guidelines in the reporting and presentation of news that can exacerbate race relations. They ask that editors should consider the consequences of what they report. Many of the points they make are already recognised by most newspapers (though not all), for example that it can be seriously misleading to give the racial origin of immigrant defendants in criminal proceedings when this is otherwise irrelevant to the case, for this can give a totally disproportionate impression of the numbers of coloured people who are brought to the courts.

They recommend that immigration statistics should be published with adequate explanatory background information. They cite instances where the commonplace journalistic injunction to check the facts has been disregarded in the presentation of immigration stories—one example being the grossly misleading and untested assumptions made in 1967 on the numbers of Kenyan Asians likely to want to emigrate to this country, the effect of which was to excite an

extraordinary political hysteria in Westminster. They suggest that good news as well as bad should receive its share of attention—and there is good news to be found of constructive community relations work.

Much of this is so obvious that it may seem surprising that it needs to be said. Yet there is enough experience of the sensational building up of artificial crisis situations, and the unthinking (if not actively malicious) repetition of stereotyped prejudice, both in national and local papers, to justify the Runnymede Trust in publishing this admirably sharp study. It provokes one question, however: why should it be left to a quite small charity to do it?

There is the Press Council whose constitution requires it to "maintain the character of the British press in accordance with the highest professional standards." The handling of race relations is a matter of professional standards. The former chairman of the Press Council, Lord Devlin, in a foreword to the report argues that at least where there is "a clear and present danger" the press must accept responsibility for the consequences of what it publishes—that it must, in practice, have regard for the social consequences.

If that is so, the Press Council ought to consider making a general statement of principles. Rather than await complaints, which is its normal practice, it could more usefully help to head them off by drafting some guidelines. The Press Council is rightly loath to take initiatives which might appear to infringe an editor's discretion, but it would be helpful not only professionally but to the community at large if the Council could positively contribute to the calm and careful reporting of race relations.

Chinese words at the UN



No one should ever suppose that the Chinese language has been a static thing. The illustration shows that it has in time undergone its own Darwinian evolution. The top row is the written style between 1700 and 1400 BC. The second and third rows are of later periods. The bottom two rows are, respectively, the non-Communist and Communist present-day styles. In the passage of

nearly forty centuries, Chinese appears to have become increasingly inscrutable. The United Nations, still reverberating with the political impact of Peking's entry, now has a linguistic problem to grapple with as well.

Ever since the beginning, the UN has been using Taiwan's written version. Peking through two great leaps forward—the New Literature Movement in 1919 and the Han Character Simplification Movement in 1955—evolved new ideographs. Many are simpler, even if the degrading rôle of the "servant" is fittingly blurred in the process. Others sound the same but have different meanings. The opportunities for confusion are many. Now that Peking is recognised officially as the sole representative of China, it is only reasonable to expect that it will want to use its own language.

If the new Chinese looks and sounds confusing to the outsider, it will be so too for the 400 clerks, typists, accountants, and interpreters working in Chinese and employed by the UN Secretariat. It is reckoned that it would take a year or so to learn the new style. But what happens in the meanwhile? Should the UN take in another 400 from the Chinese mainland? And create an infiltration scare? Or could Peking be prevailed upon to put up with the inconvenience of an interim arrangement (and the risk of being misunderstood) as the UN is phased out of one style and into another? Peking has it in its power to create a fortune for New York's language laboratories, in addition to its landlords.

A COUNTRY DIARY

NORFOLK: When the open field system of agriculture in this county was superseded by enclosure on a grand scale in the eighteenth century the hedges marking the new field boundaries were mostly of hawthorn. In due course these became an attractive feature of our landscape and in some of the more windswept areas, where they served as shelter belts helping to conserve light soils, they were permitted to grow tall, so that they were crowned with snowy blossom in May and with great hovers of crimson haws in autumn. Hordes of fieldfares sweeping in from northern Europe at the approach of winter year after year exploited this berry crop to the hilt. It was their mainstay up to Christmas and rarely failed them. Hedges generally tended to be neglected and overgrown during the agricultural depression of the 1920s and it was during that time that birds enjoyed the fullest benefit from the way-side berry harvest. This situation has changed drastically in recent years. A great many hedges have been removed altogether and most of those remaining are kept severely trimmed. This depletion of hawthorns is having repercussions on the behaviour of immigrant birds of the thrush family when they invade this county each autumn. Since supplies of early-ripening haws, their first favourites, now become exhausted very quickly, fieldfares and the like turn to other sources much sooner than formerly. Holly bushes, which they usually left alone until late December, are now being greedily devoured.

E. A. ELLIS

THE poker game that is being played out on the international monetary stage is approaching a critical phase. Growing unemployment, the protests of big business and political pressures may at last be forcing the players to show more of their cards.

The Finance Ministers of the Group of Ten are meeting in Rome on Tuesday and Wednesday. If the Americans had their way—which is highly unlikely—they would be joined by Trade Ministers and attempt to work out a big package involving not only the realignment of currencies, but also an agreement in principle to discuss trade problems. If America could persuade its trading partners to accept that new exchange rates and the opening of trade negotiations are both part and parcel of the same problem, then there is little doubt that the US would agree to devalue the dollar by raising the price of gold, as well as set a timetable for lifting the 10 per cent surcharge.

Only the super-optimists believe that such a package could be achieved next week—and there are very few of that breed around. The Europeans are probably more ready now to talk seriously about currency realignment than they have been since the crisis began last autumn. But they are still highly reluctant to tackle the trade problems, particularly since the Americans insist on talking now, and not at some distant date, about the EEC's agricultural policy, as well as the Community's preferential trading policies.

The Community's Council of Ministers has not once had trade problems on its agenda since President Nixon announced his economic measures in August. That is why the meeting next Friday and Saturday between President Pompidou and Herr Willy Brandt will be so important. They will have to explore whether Franco-German friendship can survive the machinations of money and trade diplomacy, and whether they can give the lead to the EEC which it so badly needs.

Their conclusions may well not only have an important bearing on President Pompidou's visit to Washington on December 13, but before that on the atmosphere at the NATO Ministerial meeting in the second week of December. Finance ministers as well as defence and Foreign Ministers will be there, and the big question of defence burden-sharing, as well as mutual and

Bold man's bluff



WHO'S GOT THE BEST HAND? : Nixon, Pompidou, Brandt

HELLA PICK on the financial poker game being played between America and the world

balanced force reductions, will be discussed against President Nixon's determination, willy-nilly, to restore the US balance of payments.

It is perhaps worth recalling that the original villain of the piece was the US balance of payments deficit. America's trading partners had long been the most vociferous in calling on the Administration to do something about it, and to stop exporting American inflation. Last August, Mr Nixon decided to comply—not to help America's allies, but in the interests of his own re-election.

It was, from the beginning, a programme full of risks and pitfalls. Nixon's chauvinism, and Mr Connally's baiting of America's trading partners is popular at home. But the Administration is slowly beginning to realise that this kind of popularity will last only if it is combined with concrete results in the shape of a healthier domestic economy. Although the US economy is far more self-sufficient than that of many of its allies, it cannot operate in isolation.

Japan and Western Europe have been angry and confused, and nobody could reasonably claim that they have risen to the American challenge, except to pit their various interests against America's. Mr Denis Healey is claiming that matters between the European countries are so bad that Europe is in danger of breaking apart, and that it needs an act of major British statesmanship to foil the French in their apparent

refusal to settle the currency crisis.

But this is really gross oversimplification. No country is wholly right or wholly wrong in the present situation, and the signs are that reason is at last beginning to assert itself over shortsighted selfishness. The Administration and the US Congress, showing growing awareness that it must reason with its allies, and not just threaten them; that currency realignment and trade liberalisation require a contribution from the US, as well as from its trading partners; and that economic cooperation rather than confrontation must be the order of the day.

America's partners are coming to the same conclusion: both Japan and the Europeans have been made aware that national self-interest requires a settlement of the currency crisis. The economic outlook worries Governments. They want to eliminate at least one factor of uncertainty.

However appealing it may be to the US electorate to be told that the surcharge is hitting all those countries that are trying to undercut American products, the fact is that US industry is itself worried by the international uncertainty over exchange rates, and that the big corporations with overseas interests are pressing the Administration to think again.

Rightly or wrongly, they share a view widely held in Europe—that the currency crisis is contributing to the slowdown in economic act-

Only France can show some concrete benefits. French exports have been greatly stimulated because the French Government has been able to peg the franc to the dollar, and secure an effective devaluation of its currency against its European competitors. No wonder it has resisted German efforts to put a stop to this.

But the French, like the Americans, are beginning to realise that these are dangerous economic times for lone games. M. Pompidou may well decide to play the statesman and show that he and Willy Brandt can agree to act where M. Giscard d'Estaing and Herr Schiller have differed. And if they agree to sink their monetary differences in the common interest, then at least they may pave the way for a constructive discussion on the other two items on the agenda—allowing the US easier access to export markets and sharing the burden for western defence with the US on a more equitable basis.

If America's allies do not see the light, then not only will the danger of economic recession become much greater, but the Administration may be driven to drastic action: unilateral withdrawal of troops, and a bilateral defence deal with the USSR. Perhaps it will even be driven to a massive devaluation of the dollar designed to jump the trade barriers which America's allies have not moved. However unpopular in Europe and Japan, it would be an appealing protest in a Presidential election year.

The value of saying 'No'

Sir.—Peter Hillmore in his article "The moving story of professional fees" (November 19), commented on the fact that building societies do not allow applicants to see the valuation, although the applicant pays for it. He says, "This really is a ridiculous and indefensible state of affairs."

Not quite. There are some good reasons why applicants should not see the valuation in every case. These include:

1. Building society valuations are done for a much lower fee than private surveys. This is because they are received in bulk, and a full structural survey is not carried out. Some applicants would take advantage of this to the detriment of the surveyors and the building societies themselves if they do not really want a mortgage, but use the building society application as a method of getting a cheap valuation.

2. The "Hedley Byrne" case has confirmed the dangers to surveyors of third parties becoming aware of their opinions.

3. Surveyors sometimes have to make confidential comments about condition and user which, if retailed back to the vendor by the applicant, could cause trouble. As it is, building societies already advise applicants of defects noted by their surveyors and either make retentions or require undertakings for the necessary repairs.

If the applicant asks for it, most building societies will now try to arrange a structural survey and valuation for the application combined with the building society report, and at a fee of little more if anything than the full fee for a private structural survey. There are, however, some 545,000 advances a year in this country, plus uncounted private valuations for other clients. The surveying profession is desperately short of qualified and experienced manpower. Only a fraction of the number of building society valuations could be combined with full structural surveys.

J. D. Gardner, FRICS,
91 High Street,
Cheshire, Cheshire.

Threat to the Quantocks

Sir.—Following your leading article "Scenery and Safeguards," correspondence from Christopher Hall of the Ramblers' Association and Gerald Haythornthwaite of the Standing Committee on National Parks, many people in Somerset are very perturbed about the preservation of amenities on the Quantock Hills, designated as an area of outstanding natural beauty.

Even in these days of destruction it is difficult to believe that the Somerset County Council have recently recommended planning permission for the development, into an 18-hole championship golf course, of Quantock Farm right by the ridge on the centre of the hills between Triscombe Stone and Crowcombe Park Gates. The existing narrow steep

Two-way safety...

TO THE EDITOR

Sir.—Regarding the recent tragedy where a party of school children died on a climbing expedition on the Cairngorms, there is one additional piece of equipment which should be carried by the leader of any party of children, a walkie-talkie by means of which the party's whereabouts should be signalled every hour to base.

In case of trouble, its continued use could be used by base to get a "fix" on the position of the party and to give advice.—Yours sincerely,
J. D. A. Boyd

The Old Vicarage
Plungar,
Nottingham

Sir.—Your leading article "Hazards of snow and wind" is, if I may say so, absolute nonsense. Personally I hope there will be one hell of a big, very big hue and cry into this fool-hardiness. If a son of mine had been involved I would certainly want a good many heads.

Sir Edmund Hillary could have been in charge but the expedition would still only have been as strong as the weakest member.

Mountain exercises and all

No censorship

Sir.—Mr Winchester should take more care (Nov. 19). I have never advocated "censorship" of events in Ulster. What I have done is to suggest a Code of Conduct for television (not for newspapers). I think the "instant interview" of soldier, gunman or passer-by should be avoided just as live coverage of intercommunal rioting which tends to encourage participation in the violence should be voluntarily by the broadcasting authorities. My plea is for responsibility not for censorship. Perhaps Mr Winchester has confused me with Colonel Mitchell?—Yours faithfully,
Julian Critchley.

House of Commons,
London, SW 1.

lane from Crowcombe would become a serious safety hazard if called upon to carry the estimated number of cars, delivery vans etc., necessary to the running of a championship course by highly organised commercial promoters.

The construction of a new road is proposed, to lead along the ridge by the ancient tree-shaded trackway. The hills would be virtually divided into half.

Even more serious is the plain fact that if this project is allowed to go forward it will open up the way for further applications thus gradually ruining the amenities of the whole area.

Jane Tarr.

Broomfield,
Bridgwater,
Somerset.

Bitter-sweet reasoning

Sir.—Lord Eccles's argument that some children have too much pocket money and that too much is now spent on sweets and toys, seems a poor reason for making it more difficult for all children to visit museums and galleries.

After all, their purpose is educational as well as recreational and it seems a waste of resources to restrict their use by the country's future citizens. Such visits might even divert the children's interest from too many sweets and toys.

(Mrs) U. G. Johnson
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CHRISTMAS BOOKS

Pound's shepherdess

by FRANK KERMODE

DISCRETIONS, by Mary de Rachewiltz (Faber, £3.75).

MARY DE RACHEWILTZ, the daughter of Ezra Pound and the violinist Olga Rudge, was born at Bressanone on the Italian-Tirol border in 1925 and immediately sent to a foster-mother, Frau Marcher, whose own child had just died at birth. The Marchers were peasant farmers at Gais, near Bruneck, and had several foster-children. Maria was brought up like the others, except for occasional bewildering visits from her "rich" parents. She early became a shepherdess with total responsibility for her own flock; she spoke a Tirolese dialect of German (Puschtrischer), learning Italian and English much later; and she acquired the anti-Italian prejudices of the annexed region.

As she grew up she spent more time with her parents in Venice or Rapallo, and went to a convent school in Florence. Pound took some interest in her education; by 1942 she was not only au courant with the Cantos but was translating some of them, including XIII, into Italian. Thus she became a sort of Confucian, and in general found the Cantos an education to the life she led on the prescribed lines.

Later she saw the poet in the American Disciplinary Training Centre at Pisa, and

was entrusted with the Pisan Cantos. After her marriage to Prince Boris de Rachewiltz she was able to visit Pound in the asylum in Washington, and worked for his release; eventually she was able to welcome him, as she had always intended, at Bruneck Castle, her house in Tirol. Six months later he moved to Rapallo, but the castle has remained a centre for Poundians ever since. So the Princess became some measure of what her father had jokingly called her as a little girl: *il bastone della mia vecchiaia*, the prop of his old age.

Pound always wanted her to learn to write; he helped to direct her reading and gave her strict exercises in a skill that had to be learnt, just like tennis. Given this training, and a very unusual and intelligent life which in its earliest days afforded only infrequent glimpses of her great parents and their world but which went on to include the transit from shepherdess to chattering reader, it is not surprising that she should have produced an autobiography of exceptional force.

It must be said that there are places where the artful writing gets in the way. There are obliquities where directness might have served better, Poundian juxtapositions, quotations from the Cantos which are sometimes relevant but sometimes a bit affected. Thus the rendering of the peasant childhood has great virtues—



Pound with his granddaughter, Patricia de Rachewiltz, 1959

the civilised eye registering the life of the region, the beloved foster-parents, the puzzling, sometimes "chilly" manners of the real ones: the Heimweh of absences from Gais, a village in which there was no real distinction between religious and social practices, no manners, no rigorous cult of body and mind. But the pages are tireless, peppered with Puschtrischer, intended presumably more for verisimilitude than elegance. "If this Herr is her father she can't be a Schlumpke like most Englishmen," she writes: "Si om a oia pletit herschschuagh. Flabbergast. Griss Gott," we are told. On top of this there is a cosmo-

politan sprinkling of other German, Italian and French expressions, and the otherwise strongly rendered sense of natural piety is thereby somewhat obscured.

On the advice of Pound's father, the girl was to be introduced gently into the civilisation of Italy, the world of her severe mother and that great but eccentric gentleman her father. But as she grew older she came slowly to accept these values, to accept that "beauty is difficult," Pound wrote out laws for her conduct; still in her teens she became a Poundian, translating for him, sharing his opinions on economics and race ("Race distinction, not prejudice. John Adams's sense of the natural aristoi"). The Cantos became her "bible."

By the time the war began she was old enough to understand the unique difficulties of the poet's position, to feel the pathos of his confidence in Mussolini and his conviction that he could speak words in Washington that would save America as well as Italy. He was trying to save the world; but at the same time, says the Princess, he was "losing ground," was no longer lord of his work and master of utterance.

This did not prevent her idolising him more than ever, especially in his worst days—the flight from Rome, the arrival in Gais worn out and

footloose, arrest, the cage and the asylum. There she found him, "the strong, live man with his mind entire standing in line, sitting at table with madmen, the who had liked his passion-flower in the fingerbowl, who had chosen food with such care, who, even when all he could bring were but a few roast chestnuts, offered them as though they were marrows, glasses strewn with candied violets—sitting, standing among the criminals and the insane."

What comes through very strongly is an impression of the poet, his energy, his innocent vanity, his incapacity to act as ordinary men do—in short, the beloved presence of Pound. It would be wrong to complain that one is less interested in other parts of the book—in the Princess's wartime nursing for instance. She builds up an image of her father out of the discontinuous impressions received over years of growing affection; he seems to change, as adults do in the developing consciousness of children, irrationally, mysteriously: yet in the end there is a presence, powerful, pathetic, wholly original.

Some of the stylistic resources are a bit tiresome, old-fashioned experiment that would not have surprised Pound fifty years back; but this has to be forgiven in a book that on other points can hardly be refused the status of a minor classic.

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Lords of the fourth estate

by BRIAN INGLIS



Paul Ferris

THIS year's Guardian Fiction Prize has been won by an Irish writer, Thomas Kilroy, with "The Big Chapel," a powerfully sustained meditation on a religious quarrel that ravaged the author's birthplace in Kilkenny just a century ago.

Christopher Wordsworth, reviewing "The Big Chapel" when it was published by Faber and Faber in September, described it as "one of the outstanding first novels of recent years."

The prize which is worth 200 guineas, will be presented today at a luncheon for writers and publishers at the National Liberal Club.

HATE the sin, we are always told, but love the sinner. If this means loving the Harmsworths, it is just too difficult. God may forgive them; we never can.

Or, indeed, should. They are generally credited with having brought news to the masses. They were not interested in news, as such—or, indeed, in newspapers, except as processing plants. As Paul Ferris observes, it was the first time investors had been encouraged to buy shares in a newspaper as they would have bought shares in a soap factory.

And this was not the only way in which their influence was debasing. They tried to use it to win themselves political power, and given a trace of tact, they could have succeeded—particularly with Lloyd-George, who attacked them publicly, and doubtless privately, but fed them honours and promotion to keep them happy. The treatment worked, made them vain and that in the end destroyed their prospects of power.

Paul Ferris's theme, backed by some penetrating research, and caustically written as an old one: whom the Gods wish to destroy, they previously make mad. Of the whole tribe of Harmsworth brothers and sisters, only a few deserve exemption from the general obloquy. St. John, for one, who not only popularised Perrier water but had the wit to design the bottles like Indian clubs, so that you could do the exercises with them to make you thirsty. And poor Cecil, who was not allowed to refuse to take advantage of Lloyd-George's offers of promotion, which he knew were not for his sake. But what charitable work can be said about Alfred, first Viscount Rothermere? Harold, admittedly, grew generous as he grew rich—but in unlovely ways; his secretaries would carry wads of five-pound notes to beggars in his wake. He was businesslike—but again, in unlovely ways, buying Lever shares when he knew his brother was going to be soaked by a libel action with that company. His picture makes him look like Orson Welles in a Hammer Films remake of "Citizen Kane." Baldwin demolished him in his "power without responsibility" the prerogative of the "hatchet."

By contrast, Northcliffe had a certain piratical panache; but he was the more dangerous for that. Anybody who has read the earlier biography by Reginald Pound and Geoffrey Harmsworth must have carried away the impression of rather a fine fellow who had "brought enduring fame and honour to the Harmsworth name." Paul Ferris has some times gone to the other extreme; but his version fits the known facts much better.

Northcliffe was mad. Whether he had tertiary syphilis is beside the point; he was a manic from early on—certainly from 1909, when he had 13 more years to live. And when somebody has such power, and the wealth to indulge his whims, manic feeds on them. He could say, without suffering for them. His fortunes corrupted honest men—and eventually destroyed him, too.

But not for a disturbingly long time. To the general public, and to casual acquaintances, he continued to appear sane, if occasionally erratic. He also continued to super-

THE HOUSE OF NORTHCLIFFE: The Harmsworths of Fleet Street, by Paul Ferris (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £3.50).

WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOUR, by Cecil King (Sidgwick and Jackson, £2.75).

visit the "Times" and the "Daily Mail," and be a wartime Director of Propaganda for the Government. Yet from 1909 the balance of his mind was disturbed; and those who worked for him had good reason to know it.

Why was he not eased out? Partly because it would have been difficult to prove him out of his mind, when much of the time he was in it; but chiefly because he was rich enough and strong-willed enough to have made too many people dependent on him.

A well-organised palace revolution might have brought him down; but his money and his newspapers would have stayed with the Harmsworth family, and in no time the ringleaders would have been ejected from the palace.

Even when Northcliffe began to exhibit the more obvious symptoms of insanity he was left uncontrolled; until he became actually dangerous, and had to be put under restraint. Altogether a fascinating, and unnerving, case history.

Cecil King is the son of Northcliffe's sister Geraldine, herself one of the more disagreeable of the Harmsworths, as he himself has testified. He is also the only one of the next generation to have had the talent or the ambition to try to make his mark, like his uncle, as a power figure, behind the political scenes; and Without Fear or Favour helps to explain why he did not succeed.

A collection of his essays and articles, written in his own hand, rather than in the "It's natural" style he claims, "for an Englishman to assume that West African tribesmen are all much alike. But this is far from true." King takes pains to present the truth exactly as he sees it, but that single sentence, one of many, reveals his almost endearing inability to appreciate that there is a distinction between truth and truism—and for that matter, downright platitude. There is much sense and some real insight; but he writes like someone who has spent a lifetime among men who have to be talked down to. Perhaps he has; but whose fault was that?

PICK-ME-NOTS

HAREBELLS, toadflax, cowslips, lady's smocks...

they were precious but permissible loot when I was a child. Now Mr Fitter's splendid guide to "plant-hunting" has to start with the admonition "Leave wild flowers for others to enjoy. Take the book to the plant, not the plant to the book. Truly the quality of life is deteriorating when there are too few flowers left for little girls to be given the freedom of the hedgerows. But given the collector's spirit channelled through a camera and a diary (no longer the pressed flower album), family expeditions could certainly be enhanced by Mr Fitter's guide. It has an ingenious system of keys—tiny margin drawings of leaves and petals—so that if you come upon a purple or lilac flower with four free petals and a lanceolate leaf, you should be able fairly quickly

Extrovert Pepys

by GEOFFREY GRIGSON

THE great edition goes on. Pepys in these two volumes entering his thirties, consolidating and climbing still, not quite, perhaps, at his most receptive or lyrical (the latter adjective one that it is most proper to use of him). Yet if you take him as a man, as an excerpt of life lived three centuries ago, and not as a dried piece of history, how exceptional he is, even in the slight abeyance of two years, not marked by his greater personal excitements, external or personal.

He is woken up by his blackbird, he stops to listen to nightingales—no, not at night, but on a foggy morning, walking (as he has been rowed down river) from Greenwich to Woolwich. He plays his fagoleet; he goes up to pee at night, he worries about a recurrence of the stone (for which he drinks his cup of horsetail ale); he worries about costiveness and wind and piles. He sleeps with Mrs Lane "je l'ay foutee sous de la chaise deux times"—goes home to supper with my mind on the trouble of the cup of horsetail ale (for fear she is pregnant), hoping it will be, as it won't, "la dernière de tout ma vie." And almost at once he is

THE DIARY OF SAMUEL PEPPYS, edited by Robert Latham & William Matthews; vols. IV & V (Bell, £7.50).

in agonies of unfounded jealousy over his wife. Very well. Superior persons can say that this quick man, this combination of energy and proper idleness, is only a vulgar little cad, with a pair of sensuous lips. Then you have only to turn a page on to a cracklingly correct portrait by Mrs. Barbara Villiers or Frances Stewart to realise the whole difference between being and automatonism, curiosity and mediocrity.

Pepys toils up his fortune, beats the serving-boy with a salt egg, watches his wife make a fool of herself, but great extrovert before a fully conscious extroversion, this man who is at once Establishment and himself, free in his own right and in his own mind, the friend of great scientists.

He will ask questions of Greenland whalers, he will stop to question a workman on his slow technique of sawing through a block of marble. He will record his delight in a coffee-house encounter with a traveller who reports on his travels "over the high hills in Asia," above the clouds—"How clear the heaven is above them. How thick like a mist the way is through the cloud that 'tis like a sponge one's clothes. . . . The stars at night most delicate bright and a fine clear blue sky. But cannot see the earth at any time through the clouds, but the clouds look like a world below you."

Marvellous that such men occur, and sometimes leave a record of most of themselves; marvellous, I find, that "or all the trite proverbialism of the existence of Pepys as contemplated by ourselves—"and so to bed," etc.—his journal keeps such fresh and shining activity.

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LE LAWRENCE

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Becker & Warburg

Going into the nouveau roman

by CHRISTOPHER WORDSWORTH

JUDGING by insular resistance to the nouveau roman, we may still be finding it off behind our most long after foreign trawlers have become an accepted part of the inshore scene. The charge of "mindlessness" has perforce been dropped by sensible critics: the lurking fear is that in writers of the stature of Butor, Robbe-Grillet, and Simon we are confronted by a different kind of intellect threatening our landmarks, destroying the familiar lines of communication between reader and author, and conspiring (we lump together what we fail to grasp) to relegate to anachronism and charade all our cherished concepts of the novel's "realism."

The feebleness of most home-grown forays into new novel territory has played into the hands of those critics who, in the new phenomenon only strange algebraic and the dominance of "things." To quote from "The New French Novel" by John Sturrock "any novel which embodies the actual withdrawal of the writer and gives up the pretence that the novelist can remain involved in the real world outside at the same time as he is writing, is promoting a new and stimulating form of realism, and in refusing even to parley with what we were quick to dub the 'anti-novel' we risk isolation and atrophy."

Conventional tastes, ignorant moreover of how intricately it meshes Simon's whole work will find much to baffle them in the *Battle of Pharsalus* with its contempt for the time-scale as we know it, its absence of any but the most oblique human clues.

Scene succeeds unpunctuated scene, time bleeds to death, stammered by scraps of remembered experience: lust, jealousy, a broken army, the reek of a horse's flank, these are the visual, almost tangible, tableaux thrown on the screen, sole verifiable items in the inventory of oblivion. Superbly phrased, the description image flares on image: a battle of antiquity merges into the classroom drone of Latin translation or a 1940 cavalry

THE BATTLE OF PHARSALUS, by Claude Simon, trans. Richard Howard (Cape, £2.25).

THE UNICORN, by Martin Walser, trans. Barrie Ellis Jones (Caldor and Bayers, £3.50).

THE GERMAN LESSON, by Siegfried Lenz, trans. Ernst Kaiser and Eithne Wilkins (Macdonald, £3.50).

STRANGE MEETING, by Susan Hill (Hamish Hamilton, £1.75).

THE LEAST AND VILEST THINGS, by Elizabeth North (Gollancz, £1.80).

disaster: the crossbow-shaped shadow of a bird that launches it is gone in a flash—but still falling on the page at its conclusion.

It is a sombre and mysterious landscape lit by successive lightning flashes that fuse past and present, subjective and objective, offering with meticulous artistry the superciliousness of art by the palpating, disorderly creative process itself.

Martin Walser is highly regarded on the Continent as a novelist and playwright. A monologist has no means knowing how much of *The Unicorn* has seeped away in English, including the in-jokes, but obviously its translator has tackled the Joyce-cum-Rabelais task with commendable skill and panache. The gist of the novel is a light-headed sexual odyssey at the phallic bidding of the unicorn of the title: its metaphysics is an exploration of memory, with the verdict that it is a broken reed. Its hero is a scapegrace forthright painter families who is commissioned by an amenable Swiss lady to write the definitive novel on love—the "fact-nov," nothing fictitious, and goes to work objectively exploring the vocabulary and accumulating mofen data.

Like Simon's nebulous narrator he is "locked" in his skin and awaiting death—and also concerned with the search for fixed points in the flux of existence. When the yeast subsides and he had found and lost a genuine passion he takes

to his bed in an effort to gift and retain its essence, but time leaks away, words and memory are useless. "That's how little use the forms of negation and past are in the designation of the awesome distinction between what was and what is. The consolatory and ceremony has frittered away every capacity that language had to speak adequately of the past."

The German Lesson, published with great acclaim in 1969 as *Deutschkunde*, is the best possible antidote to some of Walser's hollower tricks, and turning to its traditional structure is like turning home, although it secretes multiple meanings. Siggi the narrator is in a borsal on the Elbe: ordered to produce an essay on "Duty" he submits a blank and is confined to his cell: his completed essay with its revisions and gropings, a search for valid words that becomes a quest for roots and origins, is the book.

Widening out from the village level, *Himmel* was an honest chicken farmer—it is a study of power as Siggi recalls how his jack-in-office father, the local policeman, obeyed with literal and jarring absurdity Nazi instructions that his lifelong friend, a "decendent" artist, must be denied all future access to paint and canvas. The consequent estrangement of father and son, the policeman's incorrigible self-righteousness, Siggi's dealings

with the remand-home psychiatrist, his obsession that has landed him there, for removing paintings from postwar courses and "protecting" them, are some of the deeply inquiring strands in a book that seizes the inner eye, while visually the wary folk and bitter landscape of the Danubian borderland comes over as potentially as Grass's East Prussia.

It is a common intrusion to question "why" of a developing writer who chooses to put back the clock. Susan Hill has taken her considerable literary course in her hands in *Strange Meeting* to trace a difficult friendship and reconstruct life in the trenches in the First World War, a valuable exercise in total period immersion from which a few synchronisms of idiom and a brace of technical errors scarcely detract. Perhaps her two subalterns, the inhibited John and the attractive doomed David, are an obvious juxtaposition, but there is subtly in their relationship for the cataclysm involving them.

Finally and enjoyably, *The Least and Vilest Things*, a first novel about the rigours of gentleman-farming in the Hampshire-Dorset hinterland and a wife's bid for emancipation as love and money go down the drain—an exasperated gloss on Women's Lib that introduces a perky, individual talent of which more will be heard.

Improbable captures

by P J KAVANAGH

WHAT immediately impresses about Mr Spender is his courage. How he manages, without a mask, to turn an extreme self-consciousness outward. He has always tackled the most difficult subjects—time, mutability, the terrible desire to hold a particular instant, friendship and the death of friends, children. His lack of evasion gives him strength and very often in the last line saves himself by bringing the whole poem back to a risky but relevant particular. For example: in "The Chalk Blue Butterfly" he describes a harebell and a butterfly minutely, there is a good deal of the painter in him, and finishes the poem in this way:

I look and look, as though my eyes
Could hold the Chalk Blue in a vice
Waiting for some other witness
—That child's blue gaze, miraculous.
But today I am alone

There we see the risk taken, then the use of that shuntable word "miraculous," and the whole thing pulled together, made to work, by the simple directness of the last line. A good proportion of other poems in this book work also.

"The Edge of Being" was Mr Spender's last collection and, the blurb tells us, its successor has been "eagerly awaited for more than 20 years." The absurdist Mr Blurb, apart, this book is an unexpected surprise and pleasure.

The success of Brian Patten is interesting. Is he a younger, apolitical equivalent of Stephen Spender, a romantic regreter, alone and palely loitering? His tone of tender disappointment, like a sad young priest, is what the larger reading pub-

THE GENEROUS DAYS, by Stephen Spender (Faber, £1.00).

THE IRRELEVANT SONG, by Brian Patten (Allen and Unwin, £1.75; paper 65p).

OUR MUTUAL SCARLET BOULEVARD, by Barry MacSweeney (Faber, £1.80).

THE ESTUARY, by Patricia Beer (Macmillan, £1.00).

COLLECTED POEMS, 1958-70, by George MacBeth (Macmillan, £3.50).

THE ORLANDO POEMS, by George MacBeth (Macmillan, £2.50; paper £1.25).

lic has shown a liking for, and it is genuine stuff. But *The Irrelevant Song* is very much on the same melancholy tender note, it would be good to have a bit of parton occasionally. In "Meat" at the end of the book there are signs that this may be coming. At present the hypnotic drone can disguise some good things:

She might have said, if words
Were more her medium than touch:
"Near you is one
Frightfully real who cannot plan;
Whose heart's a cat from which
Your habits dart like birds; . . ."

In his last book Barry MacSweeney showed a clear eye and a gift for phrases. In *Our Mutual Scarlet Boulevard* he seems to have decided to use these qualities as little as possible. The absurdist Mr Blurb, apart, this book is an unexpected surprise and pleasure.

The success of Brian Patten is interesting. Is he a younger, apolitical equivalent of Stephen Spender, a romantic regreter, alone and palely loitering? His tone of tender disappointment, like a sad young priest, is what the larger reading pub-

Corvine catalogue

by PETER LUKE

CORVO, by Donald Weeks (Michael Joseph, £3.50).

newspaper. "All the news is in it—somewhere." Every known fact—and fiction—about Rolfe is in Mr Weeks's 400-page biography somewhere, and this is probably its virtue. It will provide the *officium* filling in lacunae in Rolfe's life, offering new material, separating fact from fiction, and generally getting a crooked record straight.

What adds to the book's

fascination is that it provides the key to nearly all Rolfe's fictionalised characters. For Rolfe was the writer of romances-clefs above all. Another felicity is the admirably annotated bibliography plus an absorbing—even provocative—collection of photographs and illustrations. Mr Weeks has not only done his own homework but everybody else's as well.

Rolfe's life has been—still is—in danger of being of greater interest than the sum total of his works. But if it were not for his works would

influence of various hallucinogens." He should wake up sober and unluxuriously read this again:

These chrome days
have helped to
of madness to shine on our sleeves
"Old metal" you said to that question
of feet's home—

At the other extreme Patricia Beer rides a prosaicism that sometimes strolls very unflinchingly to her destination and which once or twice throws her very badly indeed, the spectators have a job to keep their faces straight. Into this category falls her glum description of an affair that did not take place between herself and a married man met at a literary conference. Kindly publishers should hide such efforts under their blotters and discreetly lose them. They undermine the effectiveness of other poems that are genuinely simple and strong, and therefore unembarrassing. "Safe lives," "Self help," "Picture of workers resting," "The eyes of the world," these are all clearly thought and felt, the quiet tone just right. She does not need to raise her voice because she can put so much into the right detail. Here is the way she ends a poem called "Christmas Eve":

Tinsel wriggles in the heating,
Everything hangs.
As it gets dark a drunk
Comes tacking up the road
In a white macintosh
Charming as a yacht.

Those who do not know the work of George MacBeth start on the *Collected Poems 1958-70*. Those who do will know whether they want to or not. As for me I give up. His horrors make me laugh, his jokes do not, which is bewildering. His energy is very great. *The Orlando Poems* seem to me arch without archy (or mehtabell).

a biography of Rolfe be justified at all? Should not a biography of Rolfe, more than 50 years after his death, be written as a critical one? And should not a biography, critical or otherwise, draw some sort of conclusion; express some point of view; make some sort of revelation about its subject?

Mr Weeks is a collector rather than a biographer and he has presented us with his preserve, for instance, a collection, painstakingly annotated and admirably annotated. To quote a master in the art of biography: "To becoming briefly a brevity which excludes everything that is redundant and nothing that is significant—that, surely, is the first duty of the biographer."

Tricky subject

by W. L. WEBB

THIS desperate piece opens with quotations from three sources dear to students of language, truth, and politics—Swift ("having Occasion to talk of Lying, and false Representation, it was with much difficulty that he comprehended what I meant"), George Orwell ("Political language is designed to make lies sound truthful and murder respectable, and to give an appearance of solidity to wind"), and Richard M. Nixon.

Roth gives the Nixon quotation on a separate page, in tombstone capitals; an inscription to be pondered at length. It comes from a speech made three days after Lieutenant Calley had been convicted of multiple murder at My Lai; two days after the "compassionate" presidential intervention which wiped out most of the credit American democracy had recovered by the conduct of the trial up to that point.

From personal and religious beliefs (said the Quaker President) I consider abortions an unacceptable form of population control. Furthermore, unrestricted abortion policies, or abortion on demand, I cannot square with my personal belief in the sanctity of human life—including the life of the yet unborn child. Surely, the unborn have rights also, recognised in law, recognised even in principles expounded by the United Nations.

God knows, one understands the urge to respond to the conjunction of such acts, such words. But turning back to the inscription after reading Roth's wild parody of the words of the White House, one can see why it was doomed to failure. He has a fine ear for that particular brand of lawyers' patter, with its mad logic and weird calculations of advantage, and when he works directly from the text he lands a hit or two. The first chapter, for example, has his President Dron reeling and writhing imitatively round the question: What if one of the women in the ditch at My Lai was preg-

OUR GANG (starring Tricky and His Friends), by Philip Roth (Cape, £1.75).

nant? Then there's the concern for the rights of this new and wonderfully silent minority, and the reckoning of the grateful foetal vote. But for every page of comic catharsis, there's more that's embarrassing or just bleakly awful.

The disabling truth is that it's hard to outbid the absurdism of America's political reality. Consider the imaginative leap, the soaring superabundance, of that final sentence of Nixon's "surely, rights also, recognised in law . . . the United Nations in law . . . already before the satirist began, the limits of creative reach, have been reached. Then Roth must know, too, how unshockable we are, how high the threshold of weary tolerance both for evil acts committed in our name or through our omissions, and also for the quality of official explanations.

Indeed, I wonder if both author and reader are not somehow disarmed by Roth's subject. It may be partly a matter of simple pathos, there is something dog-like in the writer's devoted pursuit of power from one political lamp post to the next. But what I have in mind stems more from a kind of complicity: from the awareness that just as Calley was not only a convicted murderer but also a scapegoat for the body-counting machine he served, so the distressing but duly elected leader of the world's most powerful nation is the scapegoat of all of us who dare not change our ways.

DOCK BRIEFS

by Matthew Coady

THE bizarre, elaborately constructed puzzle novel belongs to detective fiction's past. Its effect is that which the children's party conjurer has on the watching adult. It demands a special sort of make-believe. One is no longer astounded when the rabbit comes out of the hat.

A Fine and Private Place by Eileen Queen (Gollancz, £1.80). In this tradition, the finest death visits three American tycoons. One of them has a numerical obsession. Behind him is a lifetime insanely conducted in terms of the figure nine. This fact dominates both puzzle and book to an extent which pushes both to the edge of parody. There is no lack of ingenuity, but it is the kind which is more effective in the short story where the trick is all. Nor is there any shortage of which jocosse encyclopaedism which characterises so many Queen exploits. The surprises are in the unravelling process. The denouement may be in the last line but addicts should spot the murderer long before.

Malgré et le Killer, by Georges Simenon (Hamish Hamilton, £1.50).—Slender yet haunting account of cat-and-mouse for a cold and psychopath. This is Malgré in his connoisseur-of-souls role pleading by implication, for penal reform.

Deadhand, by George Sims (Gollancz, £1.50).—Trendy, ineffectual, antique dealer uncovers blackmail syndicate and Mr Sims shows his talent for capturing London life-styles. It generates a delicious air of romantic excitement, though parts are better than the whole.

The Naked Face by Sidney Sheldon (Hodder and Stoughton, £1.80).—Fashionable New York psychoanalyst threatened by a small anonymous slaver. Suspects agogo—from ex-Hollywood nymphomaniac to paranoid industrialist. Grips like a tourniquet for most of the way then crumples into turgidity.

The Chilly Factor by Richard Falkner (Michael Joseph, £2.00).—British agent foils squalid Red plot to discredit NATO's good name in Iceland. Setting, pace and handling of political situation make it distinctly enjoyable. A practiced hand lurks behind the pseudonym: but whose? The Secret Agenda by Jennie Melville (Hodder and Stoughton, £1.40).—In its quiet way this one installes all through. It opens with a Hampshire stonemason and ends in Venice. Narrative trickery more than compensates for fairly notably a poorly visualised English background.

Waters' Circle 3 (Macmillan, £1.75).—Publishers deserve modest cheer for encouraging a neglected form. Here are eleven new short stories. Authors include C. P. Black, Brian Symons and Mary Kelly. It is quality is uneven, entertainment is unending.

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Continued from London 1971

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From Cobbett to Morris

by ASA BRIGGS

IT will soon be no longer possible for historians to go on complaining that we lack good studies of Victorian England, the largest city in the world. London was growing "evenly and inexorably," as Mr Sheppard puts it, "each decade between 1801 and 1871 at never less than 16 per cent and at never more than 21 per cent. For two or three decades social commentators preferred to turn their eyes to the more rapidly growing industrial cities of the North and Midlands. Yet during the 1850s and 1860s for reasons clearly stated by Dr Stedman Jones they returned to the metropolis.

But however much we may learn from an anthology of contemporary comments about London, from Cobbett to Morris, we still need historical and sociological interpretation of London's problems and the various attempts to solve them. Some problems were unique: others were shared. Some now belong to the remote past: others continue to exist, sometimes in magnified form. Some were misunderstood and distorted for reasons of interest and class. In particular, as Dr Stedman Jones shows, specious and contradictory but on the surface reasonable and even moving great problems for so the Victorians defined it of maintaining within the same city "civilised life" and keeping under control what Matthew Arnold called "vast, miserable, unmanageable masses of sunken people."

Dr Stedman Jones ends with the 1880s when the problem could no longer be conceived of in this way. Mr Sheppard stops short of this threshold. His useful volume in the new "History of London" series, of which he is general editor, is thorough, readable, and sensibly, if not profusely,

illustrated. It provides a better general introduction to its vast subject than any single book already in existence. Some of its chapters, like those dealing with the growth of the railway and the effects of the subsequent transport revolution—themes already explored by Dyos, Kellett, Barker, Robbins, and others—are excellent pieces of synthesis. Yet the book has its limitations. Since it is dependent on other people's monographs, treatment tends to be superficial when these are missing. The final chapter on "Living in London" is not as good as the rest, nor does it catch the shifting moods of the period. The arrangement of the book as a whole is fragmented, and there is little continuity between the separate chapters. The approach throughout is descriptive rather than analytical, and there is no sense of the city as a "system," though many mid-Victorians had this sense and some were afraid of it.

In general, there is too little on the changing images of London, and literary evidence, invaluable to the historian of particular cities, is used patchily. We miss, to take only three examples, Reynolds, Taine, and, above all, "Punch." Moreover, the fact that Dickens has been "used" so often by other historians is an inadequate, if understandable, reason for leaving him out. The "monster" of "Dombey and Son" must surely find his place in the plot.

That there was a plot with

a monster in it is brought out magnificently in Dr Stedman's published thesis, a reading of which would probably have led Mr Sheppard to amend his text, particularly in his chapter on industry and commerce. While *Outcast London* could bear pruning and in places rewriting, it is one of the most stimulating and in the best sense provocative studies of Victorian London which have yet appeared.

Given its title, it is necessary to note that it is not yet another titillating book about "underground" London, but rather a serious attempt by a quantitatively-minded historian to probe what was really "monstrous" in the London labour market, in housing policies or the lack of them, and in the accepted moralising orthodoxies which governed thinking and feeling about human relationships and the environment.

To some extent Dr Stedman Jones seems to me to simplify contemporary motives and reactions, yet his analysis explains convincingly the curious chronology both of London social policies and of the study of poverty. A debt to Althusser, obviously incurred, is handsomely acknowledged, though one cross reference to Chicago urban sociology carries less conviction.

In an excellent postscript we end more or less where we began—with London failing to lead the "social revolution" of which Morris dreamed and with political initiative passing back to the provinces, where the Socialist movement was "synergistic" but was more stably based. The strength of this monograph lies not only in its skilful handling of contemporary source materials but in the way in which it

BELLA'S DREAM

Bella's dream: one of Anthony Earnshaw's seasonable illustrations to "Wintersol"

A misanthropic Christmas

by MICHAEL McNAY

THE Musroid world is constructed on the principle that all conceivable and inconceivable things persist within reality. You arrive there by Nova Express which runs to the schedule of the White Rabbit's watch. It is the creation of Eric Thacker and Anthony Earnshaw, whose *Musrum* was first published three years ago and is reissued now with its successor *Wintersol*.

Wintersol is Christmas in *Musrum*, the dream Musroid island in the Mediterranean where *Musrum* plotted the defeat of the Weeding in the second Crimean War and where now goliwogs decapitate each other, dolls and teddy bears are suspended from Christmas-trees by nooses, and Bella, a perpetual Wendy, has a dubious relationship with Christmas, a misanthrope whose sack is a sort of Great

originality that comes from taking words for a walk (to adapt Klee) down byways trodden by Lear and Dodgson and Freud and Joyce and Jarry and André Breton.

Eric Thacker works by word association, by following the queer internal logic of metaphor, the vivid jump cuts made by dreams, the whirlingig meandering around a point of the deranged. So "Wintersol" is full of startlingly inventive imagery, crazy mottos, phrases that jangle like coins on the counter. What it lacks is the sleeper's commitment to his dream: some automatic pilot is operating to keep Messrs. Thacker and Earnshaw coasting safely off the gentler shores of goonery. It is called "Wintersol" for a reason: adults; in truth, a child would find "Hansel and Gretel" more terrifying than Christmas Bella.

Universal Stores and who gives to children only what he wants to be rid of. It sounds like a freak-out from the commercial horror of Christmas; in fact Thacker is, like his predecessor through the looking-glass, of the cloth. The mind boggles at the thought of the Rev. E. Thacker's ministrations from his Methodist pulpit in Leeds, for his is the real inspiration behind the throne of *Wintersol*. The illustrations by his friend from school days, Anthony Earnshaw, are a provocative cross between René Magritte and Doctor Dolittle, but they lack the mind-blowing



Anthony Blond

Peter the Great

by Philip Hope-Wallace

THERE ought to be, perhaps, a sea shanty about "What shall we do with an infant terrible?" Peter Brook has been thrilling and maddening me for a quarter of a century and I am currently suffering from a not quite falling for his "Midsummer Night's Dream," but I was one of the first to laud that wonderful Guinness "Brothers Karamazov" at the old Lyric Hammersmith and I would say that whether Mr Brook is perverse or wrong headed (e.g. *Salome* opera production) or just plain inspired, as in the "Love's Labour's Lost" at Stratford, everything he does is interesting because he is an out and out artist and never a mediocrity. On his shoulders has fallen the mantle of Tyrone Guthrie and though the infant is less terrible at least he is now mature.

What a difficult bird, what a rara avis to snare! J. C. Trewin, who is a drama critic and a stage historian and not given to any sort of silliness in either field, proves an ideal fowler; he also has a very nice prose style, the sort that can breathe a whisper of a Shakespearean tag with out

PETER BROOK: a biography, by J. C. Trewin (Macdonald, £2.50).

pushing it, as if we did think (and some of us do) in the recollection of all the Hamlets and Merry Wives we have collected on our path. Thus, of course, one has "Master Brook" for the younger years of the genius. I spy a certain likeness to another genius—Eisenstein of the cinema, though I think Brook has on the whole been the luckier man to date.

Mr Trewin, passing his own judgments while lightly but accurately keeping the chronicle, is also generous with quotations from other critics. It is all to put it simply, there. The pictures are not earth shaking, nor the book either, come to that, and probably not the last word on our Peter—Peter the Great in the hierarchy of living producers. But it is a useful and not unimportant, an encouraging bit of work, reminding those quick to despair that theatregoing over the last quarter of a century has had many rewards.

PUBLIC BEAMS

by Mordecai Richler

IT can be irresponsible, sometimes maliciously so, it's often childish, and it must also be said that "Private Eye" rather like having it both ways, slandering the trends one week, soliciting their support to raise funds against a libel action the next. Given its satirical bent, the magazine sorely lacks a reporter of Terry Coleman's brilliance or a columnist with Bernard Levin's true gift for invective. To take a recent case in point, Coleman and Levin, one with a devastating intellect, the other with an enraged but literate column, did more to discredit Mrs Margaret Thatcher and her policies than anything I've seen in "Private Eye."

which brings me to my most serious quibble. As satirical journals go, "Private Eye" is seldom sufficiently damaging. Paul Foot's digging on Ronan Point and the heart transplants being the exceptions to the rule. It remains the sort of titillating journal that can be, and possibly is, read by Princess Margaret for a giggle.

Having conscientiously registered my objections, let me hastily add that I take the magazine regularly, not as a duty but in search of pleasure. I think that the covers, those news photographs rendered ridiculous by deflating balloons (Peter Cook's innovation) are, on many an occasion, the wittiest in England. I also cherish a number of the "Eye's" institutions, Pseud's Corner, John Kent's Grocer, Beat's, the early Mrs Wilson's Diary, and another feature, long (and sadly) gone, Aesop Revisited.

It also must be allowed that "Private Eye" has not been without influence on British journalism. The diaries in the *Josh* newspapers, it seems to me, have been rather more pointed in recent years, less they be outbarked by the "Eye's" colour section. And would the incomparable Vamroomshka.

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF PRIVATE EYE, 1961-1971, edited by Richard Ingrams (Allen Lane, The Penguin Press, £2.50).

one of the delights of Monday's Guardian, have been possible before the emergence of "Private Eye". Finally, however ephemeral some of the "Eye's" concerns (and yours and mine, come to think of it), the magazine is utterly redeemed by what Hemingway once called the writer's one essential tool: a built-in shiv-detector. "Private Eye" is enriched by its scorn, seldom off the mark, for this country's phoney and frauds.

The last days of Macmillan, the Profumo silly season, Baillie Vass Wilksundra and poor George Brown, probably the "Eye's" most frequent victim, are all happily resurrected, some in covers that made me laugh aloud again, in Richard Ingrams' anthology *The Life and Times of Private Eye*, spanning the years 1961 to 1971. For enthusiasts, there is also an abundance of Barry McKenzie and the Cloggies, Booker, Scarfe, and Steadman cartoons, as well as many a colour section that can now be read with more nostalgia than anger. Richard Ingrams, the editor of "Private Eye," introduces his enjoyable anthology with a history so astute and informative that I wish it were twice as long.

NEXT WEEK: Moshe Levin reviews the latest volume of E. H. Carr's monumental history of the Soviet Union.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS for children: Edward Blishen, Leon Garfield, Philippa Pearce, Isabel Quigly, and others report on the season's latest offerings on December 9.

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Peace and quiet

by FRANK EDMOND

PEACE is all very well—particularly if you've got what you want. If you already rule in Kashmir, or in Palestine, or in South Africa, you naturally like "stability," and can virtuously denounce "aggression" or "violence" along with international lawyers, believers in collective security and the more traditional liberals and pacifists. But peace looks different if you're not favoured by the status quo. If you're a Northern Irish Catholic, "law and order," as Mr Faulkner understands them, imply acceptance of being a member of a permanent minority.

For the past few years, many scholars in peace research have been sensitive to charges that they may be forging yet another weapon to enable those in possession to stay in possession. If their findings are applied to (say) industrial conflict, are they thereby helping to "keep the workers quiet"?

Some relationships are peaceful just because the underdog is so oppressed that even the possibility of change has never occurred to him. In such circumstances, many conflict researchers consider it their responsibility actually to create conflict where there was none before. Adam Curle is one of these; he "hold[s] the value that it is right to change the condition of the happy slave."

He himself has been involved in conciliation efforts in a number of conflicts—social, industrial, international; and perhaps the most valuable and original part of his book is the section on "private diplomacy"—the contribution that non-governmental organisations and individuals can make to the settlement of communal and international conflicts pre-

MAKING PEACE, by Adam Curle (Tevistock Publications, £3).

cisely because they are not burdened with the disabilities of power. But he's well aware of the limitations of conciliation as a means of resolving conflict: it is "only one part of the whole process of peace-making. It does not of itself provide the structure of an improved relationship. Peacemaking involves the creation in both parties of awareness of the conflict, and a progressive reduction of the gap [in power] between the two until something like parity, or at least the political equivalent of it [has] been achieved."

It follows that, although trained as a social psychologist and educationist (at present he's Professor of Education and Development at Harvard), he knows that peacemaking isn't just a matter of changing people's states of mind by education, "conversion," or any other method. "Whatever efforts are made to change people's attitudes will be wasted if those attitudes are seen to be justified by the facts: it's no good persuading me that that tiger's merely a larger relation of the domestic cat if it's going to eat me just the same."

Curle's book—the product of work done at the Richardson Institute for Conflict and Peace Research in London—isn't in the main theoretical; indeed, much of it consists of personal, very readable reminiscences. But his knowledge of the theoretical literature gives weight to every sentence; his subject-matter lies in the overlapping of theory and practice, just as its values are located where the concepts of peace and justice intersect.

Chuckles & Co.

by CARYL BRAHMS

I AM told that when a comic arrives at home every male, age irrespective, pounces on it, reads it with that mixture of nostalgic concentration which some of us reserve for the scent of wall-flowers in a walled garden on a warm day, and cannot be detached until the last page has yielded up its inner magic.

I know that when I was a contrived and, of course, steel-bespattered child, I awaited Friday with its argosy of Puck (Professor Radium has such a happy Christmas with the boys—tee-hee) which for some reason was held to be suitable literature after the kindling of the Sabbath candles, the ceremonial lighting of a morsel of bread and salt, and the draining to the dregs of the delicious raisin "wine," which I had assisted by chopping the gultanas (one for me, one for the saucepan) earlier.

This year Penguin have come to my rescue with a revised edition of *The Book of Comics* devised by George Perry and Alan Aldridge for the express reason of providing me with family Christmas presents. They may, of course, have reasons less pertinent.

The strip cartoon has a long and illustrious lineage. From palaeolithic caves and the Bayeux tapestry, the latter an upstart compared to the dead Egyptian "who was not properly equipped for his

THE PENGUIN BOOK OF COMICS, by George Perry and Alan Aldridge (Allen Lane the Penguin Press, £2.50; paper, £1.25).

passage to the afterlife without an elaborate scroll depicting the supposed perils of his journey being placed in his tomb—through the youthful antics of Hogarth's comic "Chuckles" (price 1d), to the social sophistication of Flook, without whom no day, Sundays excepted, can claim to have begun for me.

Pip, Squeak and Wilfred, the Abner and Peanut figures. So does Fred Basset, for whom I have a sneaking half ashamed but deathless devotion.

It has transferred itself to television not only in the movie cartoon, such as *Top Cat*, but in the purely televisual form of the Magic Roundabout, with Dougal the dog, Florence, and Mr Rusty, who like Petruschka, inhabit a plane beyond mere puppetry.

Vulgar, gutsy, violent or quaint, I felt, when I came upon Section 6, Comics and the Cultural Overload, and, in a foreword mercifully brief, was reminded that the ICA held a much debated exhibition in the Mall called *Asaugh!* that the daft genre risks becoming as respectable as the breakfast soap, crackle and pop, which is, I suppose, their verbal equivalent.

EMILY BRONTË

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Hutchinson

Goffman's brief encounters

by PETER WORSLEY

TO be made to think hard is never a comfortable experience. First looking into Goffman's pages is even more disturbing, since every trivial action — glances, "cracks," quite formal greetings — suddenly become charged with momentousness. It's like reading Freud; afterwards, you worry about walking on the lines between the paving-stones.

Goffman is essentially a miniaturist. It is the detail of interpersonal life in public that he seizes upon. He uses several shock techniques. The first is the anthropological: to compare the ordinary and familiar with the outlandish, or the extraordinary, or the unacceptable (mental illness and concentration camps). The second is the obverse: Brecht's "alienation effect" — to look at "taken-for-granted" routines and assumptions with the same coolness that one would bring to the study of the customs of the Trobrianders, and to see just what these assumptions are (of course, the walls and furniture around us are harmless — until we move to

Belfast). Implicit meanings are thus brought out: where we stand physically precedes where we stand socially. The third is to look for universals, even beyond human society, for Goffman makes free with comparisons with animal behaviour.

The juxtaposition of the incongruous is thus a basic Goffmanian play. Life becomes one extended zeugma — if spies deceive, put on elaborate displays of being normal, give off false cues, etc., so do we all — at parties, in bed, and in the office. If we feel a sense of shock, however, at being bracketed with spies, Goffman coils us down for next minute he's back to the very familiar — making us see what a very complicated business holding hands in public is.

He also shocks by juxtaposing high academic writing — legal theory, ethology, psychiatry — with everyday reports of life drawn from newspaper crime reports, or accounts from novels, etc. These become the kernel of Goffman's sociology. They are all socially and morally problematic, all of a sudden. How do we manage our relations with other ped-

RELATIONS IN PUBLIC: Microstudies of the social order, by Erving Goffman (Allen Lane The Penguin Press, £3.50).

trians in the street? How do we show we are "with" someone at a party? How do we keep relationships going by "supportive ritual," or repair breakdowns by "remedial ritual"? How do we judge when a person is acting "out of character" what do we mean by this, and how do we react? How do we make an instant moral judgment of a person from his visible behaviour?

The acts regulating these elemental social relationships are usually unscrutinised and occur at lightning speed. Words may not even be used. But in these instant interactions we show appreciation, or are cool: we exude messages though we try to look relaxed; we signal trust while we plot to betray.

How everyday intercourse works is thus complex, subtle, and involves elaborate and constant, if usually swift,

social "work," infused with moral notions, if we are to keep our place in the world. To write about all this, as Goffman does, with the greatest lucidity and wit is a further achievement in its own right, for he amuses as well as stimulates; apothegms, sardonic jokes, and funny illustrations abound: there is so much condescending about, and piling of rococo elaboration upon qualification, that it is hard at times to keep the line of thought in sight because of the fireworks exploding in the footnotes.

Thus, to illuminate one process of collusion — the use of respectable "covers" to conceal unrespectable behaviour — he describes the "beard," a person who accompanies an illicit couple on public occasions so that he can play the part of the coupled male and thus protect his friend. The full flowering of the "beard" role, he tells us in a footnote, "were those members of royal entourage who married the king's current favourites to provide these ladies with a presentable reason to be at court. Such men — institutionalised beards — had a special patriotism, for they

were willing to lay down their wives for their country."

It is easy enough to point to the limitations of a purely interpersonal sociology, to point to diminishing returns, or to ask how this kind of research and theorising is to be related to other styles of social-science work.

But anyone foolish enough to write it off as frivolous would be well advised to read the concluding essay on insanity, for here Goffman brings "to bear on mental illness" the battery of concepts he sometimes, indeed, plays with for their own sake and for his and our amusement, by showing, in a serious and radical way, that the manic person is one who does not keep his required place, who creates organisational havoc, and whose family then collude with others to have him "certified." Goffman's approach treats him merely as the "symptom carrier for a sick set-up," deposited in a "hopeless storage dump trimmed with psychiatric paper."

Beneath the jokes, then, is the seriousness, just as embedded in the apparently trivial lies the profound.

Daring young men & flying circuses

by PETER ECKERSLEY

IN any bestiary of the stars there ought to be a small place for Peter, the plastic mad philosopher created by Cook and Moore for their television series; the pair of seedy niggers who discussed the nature of life and art in steamy cabs and whose reach invariably exceeded their grasp. Twelve of the scripts have now been published — under the second title "The Dagenham Dialogues" — in a tall format presumably designed to fit into an old Christmas sock.

The characters have given up their days to spleen and idleness and discuss anything from erotic passages in Nevil Shute (the dirtiest author they know) to the way the eyes in Vernon Ward duck paintings follow you round the room. They boast ("I took her up West. I mean, I took her up to the top of the world, and they bluffed...") and they bluff ("Beethoven was born in 'er, Flanders... His mother was a weaver and, er, his father was a weaver"). Nothing has filtered through to them from the top and along some of the more outrageous passages, but they are very funny.

Performers who write their own material often take enormous pratfalls, but a large part of the ridiculous charm of the Monty Python team is that a gang of writers have come together and managed to look relatively professional and unselfconscious on screen while shovelling the stuff out.

It is often extremely funny and in the best traditions of "Private Eye" where, as Bushon learned the trade and Beryl Antonia Yeoman — a happy home for some of her more outrageous cartoons just before her death last year at the age of 55. This rather pricey collection of some of her work is a worth-while reminder of what a fine cartoonist she was, with great elegance, clarity, and good humour — the kind of qualities which in a jazz pianist were once referred to as "the bar and no messing." The cartoons are placed with enormous precision in their social time and place and it is one of the most coherent and genuinely witty collections for a long time.

A pleasant stocking-filler from T. E. B. Clarke, a running narrative about a scandalous family built up from bizarre Victorian illustrations with new captions. An old trick, a one-off joke, but this one is rather more than usual.

Mr. Buckle is extremely good at re-creating jealousies and intrigues, for example the hostility between Fokine and Grigorov on the one hand and Nijinsky on the other. He is also good at the exegesis of conflicting eye-witness reports. He describes Nijinsky's choreographic method and the final products, accepting the view that he was a revolutionary pioneer ahead of his time. "L'Après-Midi d'un Faune" was probably the first ballet in which the choreography could be called independent of the music, "Jeux" was almost

Caesar's wives

by DOUGLAS JOHNSON

SOME historians are concerned with identifying the notabilities of the Napoleonic period and understanding their power and status to establish the nature of French population growth in these years. But there are still many who wish to continue studying the Emperor and his entourage, curious about Napoleon's private life, as it does to the rocky and fair-haired Marie-Louise, with her fixed, Viennese doll's smile.

It was in 1809 that Napoleon told Josephine that he was arranging for the annulment of their marriage. "In politics," he said, "there is no heart, only head" and it was in order to have an heir that he married the Austrian Archduchess who was 22 years younger than him. Yet, as Mr. Turnbull tells us in his new biography, when she was in labour with his son and the doctors were worried, Napoleon gave the order that if it was a question of the mother's life or the child's, then they should save the mother. There was often much that was fine and humane about Napoleon.

This emerges too from Mr. Cronin's elegant and scholarly work which is essentially devoted to Napoleon as a person. He gives us an attractive portrait of this energetic, impatient man, and an impressive account of his life circumstances. Mr. Cronin is more ambitious than Mr. Turnbull and seeks to tell a story which is on a vaster scale.

But it was during the period



A characteristic Rushton stroke from "The Day of the Green" — "extremely funny and in the worst possible taste."

Diaghilev's faun

by OLEG KERENSKY

MUCH more than a mere biography, Richard Buckle's Nijinsky is also something less. In the course of nearly five hundred pages, complete with photos, drawings, source footnotes and a bibliography, Nijinsky is firmly placed in the context of ballet history. The whole Diaghilev period is described in the loving detail we would expect from the organiser of the celebrated Diaghilev Exhibition. We are told of Diaghilev's career both before and after his comparatively brief liaison with Nijinsky, of the rivalry between Pavlova and Karavina, and of Diaghilev's relationships with his backers, choreographers, dancers, and lovers.

Diaghilev and Nijinsky first met in 1908; the dancer married and was dismissed from the ballet in 1913; he appeared with it again in America in 1916-7, giving his last performance in Buenos Aires on September 26, 1917. This period is covered extensively with quotations from reviews and from the published and unpublished recollections of colleagues and admirers.

Mr. Buckle is extremely good at re-creating jealousies and intrigues, for example the hostility between Fokine and Grigorov on the one hand and Nijinsky on the other. He is also good at the exegesis of conflicting eye-witness reports. He describes Nijinsky's choreographic method and the final products, accepting the view that he was a revolutionary pioneer ahead of his time. "L'Après-Midi d'un Faune" was probably the first ballet in which the choreography could be called independent of the music, "Jeux" was almost

the first with a contemporary theme, and "Rite of Spring" matched Stravinsky's new kind of music with a new expressive use of the dancers' bodies.

An earlier view of Nijinsky was that he was always clearly incontinent and that it caused his choreography to go to bizarre extremes. For a long time his creative work, like that of his sister Bronislava, seemed a dead end but her ballets are much admired now and our avant-garde choreographers seem to have taken over where Nijinsky left off. Mr. Buckle sees no evidence that Nijinsky was mad until shortly before he was committed in 1918. He also destroys certain other legends: Nijinsky did not fail to wear a jock-strap at the performance which caused him to be dismissed from the Imperial Russian Ballet, the Dowager Empress did not complain. Nor was he primarily homosexual; on the contrary, Mr. Buckle thinks he was sexually more interested in girls. In spite of his emotional need for a protective father-figure.

The book is surprisingly reticent almost old-fashioned, about Nijinsky's sex life; we are told with whom he did it, but not what he did. Nor does Mr. Buckle explain or fully describe the nature of his style and technique as a dancer. Perhaps these things are impossible. And perhaps the Diaghilev period is more valuable than the biography some of us might have preferred.

REMINISCENCES OF A SHOW-MAN, by Vic Taylor (Allen Lane, The Penguin Press, £1.95).

TRAVELLING PEOPLE, by Duncan Dallas (Macmillan, £2.75).

Something of the same ground is covered by Duncan Dallas in Travelling People. But his sweep is rather wider, embracing the whole world of the fairground as it is today and as it has been at other times in its stormy history. Moreover, whereas Mr. Taylor's book is highly personal, Mr. Dallas's aim approaches encyclopaedic coverage of his subject extending to a glossary of fairground terms.

Let no one think, however, that it is a work for the serious student and not the casual reader. A dip anywhere will reveal such gems as a description of the "The Fall of Gretna" and consisting simply of a dropped candle, or "The Wonder Spotted Boy" who made £200 profit in two years for some small-time Barnum before dying of measles.

FROM Dickens's "Pickwick Papers" to Stanley Reynolds's "Better Red Than Dead," I don't remember ever reading a book embellished with that old-fashioned device of the chapter heading which I didn't enjoy. No doubt, this is largely chance and hundreds of bad books must have summarised thousands of lurid chapters in this engaging way that never fails to evoke the ghost of Mr. Jingle. But I am yet to encounter one and the latest example to come my way, Vic Taylor's *Reminiscences of a Showman* — an autobiographical account of 60 years spent on the outer fringes of the entertainment world — does more than just keep the record intact.

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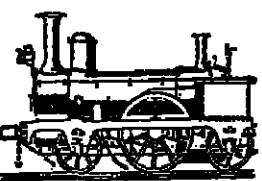
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Gone dancing

by GEORGE MELLY

NOSTALGIA becomes attached not only to things we loved in the past but to things we may have positively disliked, to plaster castians or cinema décor or, as in the case of Mr McCarthy, to commercial dance music. For although in his extreme youth he admits to a fondness for Ambrose and his peers, he later became one of the more rigorous jazz purists, and it is only comparatively recently that the rose-tinted spectacles of time have renewed his interest in the enthusiasm of his youth.

His book is scholarly, a mass of information about the development of the dance band from its tentative beginnings at the turn of the century to its decline in the early fifties. It's deliciously illustrated too. There seated against "modernistic" band stands or posing with their instruments against carefully cast studio shadows are the musicians with their neat hair-line moustaches and hair appropriately combed into grooves like 78 rpm gramophone records. Meanwhile the text, covering alternate chapter by chapter the American scene and the parallel British or European developments, shakes the memory of anyone old enough to have slid around on the local palisade strewn floor or changed the needle in a wind-up gramophone.

McCarthy's only difficulty is in deciding exactly where to draw the line between dance music and jazz, and at times he seems to me a little arbitrary. Otherwise it's a splendid wallow and full of period touches.

Writing for instance of Fred Elizalde, the well-heeled American expatriate band leader of the twenties, McCarthy points out that he composed, among other works, a "symphonic jazz suite" called "Heart of a Nigger." Such a writer, the author, is about as revealingly ignorant about racial matters at the time that Elizalde apparently considered the name in no way insulting to black people. A few years later, Ambrose performed it at the London Palladium but this time, recognising "it was not a very nice piece," he withdrew it. Perhaps a wholly acceptable epithet, "the title was changed

THE DANCE BAND ERA, by Albert McCarthy (Studio Vista, £4.20).
THE WORLD OF DUKE ELLINGTON, by Stanley Dance (Macmillan, £3.50).

to "Heart of a Coon" in what was presumably meant to be a conciliatory gesture."

That "presumably" is an indication of what gives this book its edge. McCarthy, while in love with his subject, is aware of its absurdities, and equally conscious of that basic unfairness which allowed white musicians to make fortunes from the inventions of far less well rewarded black ones.

At the same time he never tries to put his subjects down as if they were operating in today's climate. The irony, while sharp, is kindly, the judgment objective, and the book is a useful and enjoyable piece of research and social history.

One of the great bands more or less excluded in this book because of its predominant jazz orientation is Duke Ellington. This is not in fact an original book but a compilation of taped interviews with the Duke himself and the more prominent members of his orchestra both past and present, and a reprint of articles about Ellington, his music and life style, which Dance has written for this or that journal over the years.

The book's failure is not the fault of its author but of its subject. Ellington, music aside, is an adept at giving away nothing inside a smooth, sophisticated surface. The musicians themselves jump off the page. They have come from every kind of jazz background from Storyville on and they reveal themselves for better or worse within a few sentences. The Duke, on the other hand, religious, respectful towards Nixon, rather conventional and safe in what opinions he will vouchsafe us, remains an enigma.

To read the book is like peeling the layers off an onion. There seems to be nothing at the centre but then, as we know from the music, that just can't be so.

Words for images

by DEREK MALCOLM

BEREFT now of its former millions, for whom a weekly dose of the movies never failed, the commercial cinema lurches from one year to the next, fed on a past of memories and ever-diminishing hopes of future jackpots. Yet anyone who says the cinema is dead, or even dying, simply isn't looking hard enough at the product. It is alive and well and living elsewhere, away from yesterday's elephantine place oriented towards a smaller, more selective audience.

You can tell that by the books, dozens of them, which now exist to explain a 75-year-old phenomenon that once scarcely seemed to need the written word to underline its pretensions. Parker Tyler's *Magic and Myth of the Movies* (Secker and Warburg, Cinema Two Reprint, £2.95, paper £1.50) makes it all seem heavy weather. It looks behind the commercial clichés to find a superstructure, Freudian or psychic, that lifts them into the realms of high art, or high camp as the case may be. His often tortured, frequently labyrinthine way of elevating cinematic real estate into totems owes more to his imagination than poured into the subject matter—no wonder Gore Vidal's *Myra Breckinridge* took him to his heart.

Others like Mr Tyler seize avidly on little-known directors to expiate for all those rainy evenings at the Romy. Nicholas Garnham's *Samuel Fuller* (Secker, Cinema One series, £1.75, paper, 95p) is a thorough job by way of finding more than meets the eye. "Godard," he says, "may intellectually admire Mao's thoughts, but Fuller has the innocent courage actually to film them in a sloganising style." Really? The insights of these two books are real but surely overblown.

It is much easier to dip into another Cinema Two reprint, *Garbo and the Nightwatchmen* (£3.50, paper, £1.90). Alistair Cooke's quirky selection of reviews written by British and American critics who could that time get away with introductions like:

"I have thought the matter over and have come to the conclusion that something will have to be done about the English Robert Foxworth about 'The Rehearsal'." Or "We are apt to forget, among the gangsters and grand passions, that the cinema has other uses than fiction, and yet it is the Gas Light and Coke company which is responsible for the most interesting film I have seen for a long time, Edgar Anstey's 'Nutrition'."

The Hollywood Musical (Secker, £4) is also goodish value. It has a breezy if light-weight text from John Russell Taylor, of the Times, and a huge reference section by Arthur Jackson. Roger Mannell's *Shakespeare and the Movies* (Dent, £3) is full of interest, though not as accurate as we have come to expect from such an experienced source.

My two favourites, however, among the past months' batch of movie books are Thorold Dickinson's *Discovery of Cinema* (Oxford, £3), which seems to me to offer marvellously clear guidelines for the beginner, and Tom Milne's passionately written *The Cinema of Carl Dreyer* (Zweemant, International Film Guide Series 75p). Mr Dickinson, Professor of Film at London University and a notable director in his own right, has provided a solid framework in which the history of the cinema can be seen as a reasonably logical process. It isn't often done.

Mr Milne attempts to put back some blood into the current evaluation of the great Danish director as a maker of "impeccably solemn, serious and passionately humanitarian spiritual odysseys." He succeeds through sheer power of analysis though even I boggle a little at the description of *Gertrude* as "a transcendental masterpiece." As but he is right. Dreyer could be lyrical, funny, erotic and entirely removed from that eternal dark-night-of-the-soul stodge which so puts off your average film society members. That good sense someone as eloquent as Mr Milne has at last said so.

WOODLANDERS

by BRUCE CAMPBELL

LATEST in Collins's new Naturalist main series, now past its half century of titles, is *Woodland Birds*, by Eric Simms (Collins, £3.00).

THE MOLE, by Kenneth Mellanby (Collins, £2.00).

Eric Simms has ranged all over Britain and Ireland—which gives a great deal of advice—surveying the birds of our remaining broad-leaved woods, of the new coniferous forests and of the curious hybrid habitat of suburbia, of which he himself is a denizen, on Dolly Hill in North London. But he goes back in time too, setting the geological and historical scene for his avian actors.

Both books have the high standard of illustration, by colour and monochrome photographs and line drawings that is expected of the New Naturalist.



"Everyone brought spring flowers to the cemetery and George and I looked at our favourite angel"—from "And Miss Carter Wore Pink"

A heyday

by ROBIN THORNER

HELEN BRADLEY was born in 1902 and brought up in a petty bourgeois gentility in a tall Victorian house in the High Street of Leeds, a small textile town in the Pennine foothills east of Oldham. Ten years ago she began to paint, to show her granddaughter what life was like as a child in the Edwardian era, when "even the weather was kinder."

Her pictures are primitive and idyllic industrial landscapes dotted with matchstick figures, like Lowry through rose-water spectacles. They have been collected with Miss Bradley's whimsical captions and disarmingly nostalgic

AND MISS CARTER WORE PINK: scenes from an Edwardian childhood, by Helen Bradley (Cape, £1.60).

reminiscence into *And Miss Carter Wore Pink*.

Against a backdrop of gaunt brick mills and covey terraces the Bank Manager salutes the Aunts, prim of bearing and blank of face, while the cobble streets teem with spindly children, dogs, and passers-by. It was a world of gossip, walks across the cemetery, "dreadful" mill fires, outside toilets, Pot Markets, the Hope-Ainsworths in their carriage, sailing and skating in the

park, home-cured ham and home-baked bread, the Mothers' Union treat and railway excursions across the fields to Blackpool.

A gracious, spacious, meticulously regulated world, with its adult preoccupations sentimentally filtered through the eyes of a seeing but unheard little girl in a sailor suit. "George and I were going to sleep already, and Aunt Charlotte was taking such a long time to say 'good-night' to the Rev Albert Green, the new and handsome curate. Aunt Frances whispered to Aunt Mary that Charlotte had blushed, and did she think there was anything in it."

Leading the blind

by MONICA FURLONG

I AM not at all sure that any parent who had difficulty in talking to his children about religion would find my answers here. I do not know, for instance, what it would do for an atheist I used to know, whose 7-year-old son believed in Father Christmas but not in God. But what it would do, just by its exuberance, is stimulate interest in the whole thorny subject of religious thinking, making it a livelier proposition than the traditional Christianity has often made it appear.

All the same, I have certain strong reservations about Mr Wren-Lewis's approach. In his numerous shorter writings of recent years (quoted a little too copiously, at the expense, it seemed to me, of more original religious thinkers) he has explored at length two themes which form the guts of the book. One is that religion has mistakenly exploited a "behind-the-scenes" view of God and of life. It has told men that life was not really as

What Shall We Tell the Children by John Wren-Lewis (Constable, £2.50).

they knew it and experienced it from day to day, and that on its authority they must live as if it was a quite different sort of world. His other axe, ground at even greater length, is that man has discovered the "experimental method," and that this can lead him towards triumphal conquering of his world. Or what Mr Wren-Lewis calls "Potent Man, man who constantly strives to use matter to express the creativity of his own inner life."

His behind-the-scenes view of religion strikes me as a caricature of what the great religions have taught, though in some cases the caricature is deserved. What they have claimed is that we are blind creatures and that if we could see better we should see something different. This does not

seem a very difficult proposition; many people who have enjoyed aesthetic experience, or fallen in love, or undergone psychoanalysis, or even, like Mr Wren-Lewis, taken mescaline, have felt how poor and partial, how lacking in wholeness, their day-to-day life has been.

As for science, the experimental method, and Potent Man, I would feel happier if Mr Wren-Lewis showed some sign of awareness that potency cannot create all by itself. He talks warmly of the religious experiment of the young, especially with Eastern religions, but he does not seem fully aware of how intense is their contempt for the technological rationalism, and indeed for any kind of manipulative approach to life.

It is perhaps the masculinity of the scientific approach to life which has led us into an exaggerated femininity by way of correction and compensation. This, I believe, is the situation we have to go on from, not the Edwardian Christianity about which Mr Wren-Lewis is so scathing.

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Holy smoking

by ANN FARADAY

THIS book is a sequel to a phenomenon, a sequel that proves more exciting than its best-selling predecessor, Carlos Castaneda's previous book, *The Teachings of Don Juan* (Penguin), started life as a doctoral thesis in anthropology while the author was still a student at the University of California. He set out to study the Mexican Indians' use of psychotropic plants and got himself adopted as the apprentice of an elderly Yaqui Brujo or shaman.

His account of initiation into states of "nonordinary reality" challenged readers to consider whether it is really possible to explain all the strange experiences induced by peyote and other psychotropic substances as mere hallucination, and the book rapidly became something like a bible for the counter-cultures on both sides of the Atlantic.

Castaneda eventually copped out of his five-year apprenticeship as the victim of the "first enemy of a man of knowledge"—fear—and in the new book he tells how he could not resist returning to Mexico and presenting his mentor with a copy of the *Teachings*. Don Juan accepted it with his usual deprecation of Castaneda's preoccupation with writing and intellectualising: "You know what we do with paper in Mexico. And so began a second cycle of apprenticeship in which Castaneda struggled to learn the art of 'seeing' below the surface of things to the strange world from which many Indians seem to derive a startling power for living intensely—brilliant!—irrespective of external vicissitudes."

When Castaneda, uneasy about the use of psychedelics, asks: "Why does one have to smoke? Why can't one simply learn to see by oneself?" I have a very earnest desire, isn't that enough? Don Juan replies: "No it's not enough, seeing is not so simple and only the smoke can give you the speed you need to catch a glimpse of that fleeting world." An illiterate old Indian here anticipates the findings of modern research which suggest that psychedelics increase the brain's rate of processing information from the sense organs. May we not also find in due course that in speeding-up opens the doors of perception to realities beyond our ordinary awareness, as well as stimulating the subjective imagination?

Certainly many strange things happen to Castaneda even when he is not under the influence of psychedelics, and he records these experiences

SEPARATE REALITY: further conversations with Don Juan by Carlos Castaneda (Bodley Head, £2.25).

reluctantly because they fly so much in the face of his Western scientific world-view. The book ends with Don Juan telling him that his desire to cling to intellectual clarity—the second enemy of the man of knowledge—has prevented him from learning to "see." (The third enemy is death.)

While there is much in Don Juan's teachings we are likely to reject—his world of witches, demons and spirits, his *cañonera* pronouncements on the nature of reality, and the old-fashioned obedience tests inflicted on his disciple—nevertheless the "extraordinary power of the old Indian bits below the belt and makes this book a literal spell-binder.

In the *Shadow of Man* is the popular version of the material which gained Jane van Lawick-Goodall a Cambridge PhD, although she had no initial degree, and no other scientific papers. The opening chapters, with their aptly named and somewhat tedious acknowledgments of help and gratitude to those who made her studies possible and to the students now carrying on much of the work, should not put the reader off the rest of the book—her detailed descriptions of the members of the chimps community, and their relationships. Anyone who has attempted seriously to watch wild animals, or even domesticated ones, will appreciate the author's extraordinary achievement in becoming accepted by the apes as part of their day-to-day background like the baboon troops also inhabiting the Gombe Stream area of Tanzania. Almost as remarkable are the close-up photographs, mainly taken by her husband.

BRUCE CAMPBELL

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Cash and crocodile tears

RHODESIA: Michael Lake on sanctions, Peter Jenkins on principles

SIX years ago, Mr Wilson, then Prime Minister, told a Commons meeting in Lagos that sanctions would bring down the Smith regime in a matter of weeks, rather than months.

Yesterday, the message from Whitehall was different. Sanctions might come off, but it would be a matter of months rather than weeks. Anyone who assumes that yesterday's agreement, signed in Salisbury, gives the green light for the resumption of trade had better think again. In spite of the psychological impact of the agreement, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office insisted yesterday that sanctions-busters would be fined very heavily.

The Navy blockade of the Beira oil terminal stays on. So do the aerial and travel restrictions. Even if the settlement is ratified, black Africa may still object to airlines flying over their territory direct to Salisbury.

All the while, two factors stand in the way of an easy resumption of normal business. The first is the political acceptability of the terms, which will determine the amount of financial aid Britain provides Rhodesia to service or cushion her outstanding debts. In this context, the degree of investment risk and promise in Rhodesian stocks will depend on the political climate.

We are led to believe that some mention of the financial repercussions of a settlement,



SIR ALEC MEETS LEADERS OF BLACK AFRICAN OPINION

Beyond the aid one assumed Britain will provide, for African education, is included in the document spelling out the terms. For instance the Rhodesian administration is likely to need to float conversion stock in London to offer to the holders of out-dated stock which has not been redeemed and which adds up to nearly £30 million. Britain may well be asked to underwrite this loan. If Rhodesia needs a short-term transfusion of money to get her over the first two years of real independence—her foreign reserves are exhausted—she may come straight to the British Government.

The second factor is that no money can change hands, no trade can start until the test of acceptability (the fifth principle of the negotiations) has been carried out satisfactorily. The Government is anxious not to take or allow

any action which might make it appear that a settlement was out and dried, that the outcome of the test was a foregone conclusion.

The assessments and the planning, depending on the extent to which Rhodesia is prepared to lift secrecy pending a final settlement, can never be final. Rhodesia's public debts, in the form of loans floated on the London market, were £56 million at the time of UDI, in 11 stocks. Four of these have fallen due: 31 per cent £1-66, £1.4 million; 24 per cent £5-70, £20.8 million; 31 per cent £6-49, £4.4 million; all held at the Bank of England; and 41 per cent £5-68, £1.2 million at Barclays.

The debt is: unpaid gross interest, £12,549,000; unredeemed stock, £26,136,000; debts to sinking fund, £1,772,000, total £40,457,000.

The sinking fund is enough to pay at least £5 million of these two debts, say, two of the smaller loans, but the fate of the £20.8 million stock is unknown.

On the other hand, there is an untold amount of private Rhodesian money, in current accounts and in stocks and shares, all of which have been frozen. Dividends and interest have, however, been accumulating, and Rhodesians, should a settlement go through, will be able to draw on their funds to the tune of several millions.

It was thought, at the time of UDI, that £8 million of British funds were frozen in Salisbury. This figure seems to be an understatement. The other hand money has been flowing out of Rhodesia back to Britain in the way of "back door" dividend and interest, and money repatri-

ated by returning migrants, to the tune of £14 million a year, according to one source.

The biggest item of trade is tobacco. Britain bought Rhodesian tobacco for one third of her supplies, best Virginia flue-cured tobacco, which has been stored in Rhodesia these six years. There is no London market, and our alternative suppliers in America, Canada and India must be wondering if British manufacturers are going to beat down the Rhodesians at auction, and cut them out.

On the other side, the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders put out a strong supporting notice, pointing out that in 1965 Britain sold 10,600 of Rhodesia's annual import of 15,600 cars, worth £9.5 million to Britain, and welcoming the opportunity to ensure that Rhodesians could drive British cars.

British steel, especially special types, rolling stock (of which Rhodesia is acutely short) and, above all, British capital are likely to move into Rhodesia in dramatic quantities if the deal is confirmed. Mr Smith always argued that he needed to declare independence in order to end the uncertainty over his country, which, he said, was hindering investment and growth. He was proved wrong up to now. A settlement provides the first opportunity to see if he is ultimately correct.

SIR Alec Douglas-Home's career began with Munich and ends fittingly with Salisbury. Before setting out he said: "I am concerned with my honour, but not about my reputation." It looks as if he will return with his reputation intact—Munich, Suez, and now Rhodesia, to mention but a few of his life's achievements. In fairness we should leave the question of his honour until we know exactly what he has done, how much he has achieved in the form of real African advancement, and how far he has gone in abandoning his own Five Principles.

The Munich comparison is made not in the spirit of instant moral outrage, but in the cause of calling a spade a spade or white supremacy white supremacy. There was a serious and respectable case to be made for appeasement in the thirties. The appeasers believed we lacked the will and the means to fight the dictators at that time. Right or wrong, it was a patriotic judgment. There is a serious case also to be made for abdicating responsibility for Rhodesia, if there is nothing we can do about it then there is no great dishonour in admitting it. The imperial delusion is no less delusory when taking up the black man's burden than when hankering after the white man's gun boat. From the moment UDI became a fact British responsibility for Rhodesia has been a fiction. The moment of abdication came with our inability or unwillingness to use force at that time. Tiger and Fearless would have been compromises different only in degree from Sir Alec's settlement.

What was so despicable about Munich was that a

moral abdication was made the matter of self-congratulation and deluded popular rejoicing. And what is going to be so despicable about the settlement with Rhodesia is the spectacle of patriotic rejoicing on the Tory benches this afternoon as Sir Alec totters home with his piece of paper and majority rule in our time—although not in his.

PETER JENKINS



Already, the Prime Minister has fired off a telegram of congratulation, and one can almost hear him heaving with glee.

Argument concerning the constitutional principles is bound to be of a theological kind. Unimpeded progress towards majority rule under Mr Wilson's Fearless formula was expertly estimated to leave the whites in power for some fifty years. Whatever Mr Smith has agreed to now will be of academic interest by the time the black challenge to white power in Rhodesia becomes a pressing practical question; there simply is no guarantee against retrogressive amendment under Principle No. 2, for once we have abandoned our legal claim to sovereignty we will be even more powerless in the matter than now. The more telling argument

we may expect to hear is that whatever the fortunes of the settlement will mean some improvements in the political and material well-being of the African. Principle calls for progress towards racial discrimination. Progress towards the arrival of apartheid is no new thing but can be argued—in the absence of hypocrisy—to be better nothing. And so it probably, provided we are prepared to take upon ourselves the burden of saying that the African really wants not self-governing independence but more food in his belly and more education in his head.

And that is exactly Sir Alec has said, does he and holds at the root of long-standing determination to reach a settlement which corresponds to his view of realities of the situation. Southern Africa, New York on January 1966:

"Majority rule in Rhodesia today or tomorrow will bring collapse and ruin. A can't live on a slop or disorder or political chaos for the new countries of the continent is that not matters to the people who food and education and exploitation of their resources?" So they won't get British freedom under Sir Alec's deal with Mr Smith, but they will get some British money, food and education. Exploitation of their basic resources by British interests will be a problem at all. And with the best of British luck it might be allowed to white lavatories, made Britain, no doubt.

MISCELLANY

Snakes and ladders

POOR COLD JIM is coming into the warm. Half in, anyway. Jim Callaghan topped the poll last year for the Shadow Cabinet, but times have changed, caucuses are organising, and Labour MPs no longer have to vote for all 13 places. The Shadow Home Secretary was not on anyone's list, and risked slipping down the ladder, if not actually off the end.

But with nominations closing today and polling stretching into next week, Sunny Jim has found a backer. The Common Market Safeguards (for which read right-wing anti-Marketters) has adopted him along with Douglas Jay, Fred Peart, Uncle Peter Shore and all.

The problem is that the Safeguards have now done an electoral deal with the Tribune group. Each has endorsed the other's list as a guide to the respective faithful. But the Tribune men would not accept Jim. To make up the 12 on the combined list, they proposed Stan Orme. The Righties, in turn, have rejected Stan. So the voting runs to 13 names. Back-bitch?

Mien time

COCKTAILS WITH Chiao Peking's man at the United Nations has just given his first party. Three hundred guests, cold turkey, curried chicken, beef, Siragani, fish, Chinese, whisky (somewhere between Bourbon and Scotch, not quite whisky sweet and sour).

And diplomatic party games, like spot the missing



CHIAO: party line

delegations. The genial hosts neglected to invite the Australians, New Zealanders or Japanese, all of whom backed American efforts to keep out Peking. Nor were the ideologically suspect South Africans, Portuguese, Israelis or Jordanians bidden to the feast. The Russians were asked, though, and sent their senior man, Jakob Malik.

IT TAKES MORE than a 300-mile hike to keep a Canadian polar bear from his favourite garbage dump. Last month 24 bears were airlifted in a much bulkier operation at a cost of \$5,000 from Churchill, Manitoba, to an isolated point on Hudson Bay after local inhabitants complained of their scavenging along the high streets. But seal hunting on the bay apparently holds no charm for the bears, and two of them made the journey back in 15 days, travelling at four times their normal speed of five miles a day. The remaining 22 are feared to be not far behind.

Grave charges

STORMONT IS STRIKING back in the propaganda war. All this week, the Northern Ireland Government is running a series of anti-IRA ads in British press. "The IRA is the final solution to

the housing shortage but you can't live there—over a drawing of a graveyard. "The IRA has planned a future for you... you've got ten seconds." And yesterday: "The terrorists will take care of you... in their own way—with a picture of a girl's hair being shorn."

The Catholic morning paper, the Irish News, was offered the ads, but declined them. "We were in a dilemma as most of the IRA read the Irish News," its advertising manager says. "We had to think of their reaction."

Quite, but even in troubled Ulster every smoke cloud has its silver lining. The December number of Safety, the journal of the British Safety Council, leads its front page with this heading across six columns: "IRA bombing terror cuts work accidents."

Mission school

WHO'S FOR SALISBURY? For the first time since Sir Jack Johnson packed his bags and flew out of Rhodesia on the morning of UDI, Her Majesty will need a full-dress Head of Mission in Mirimba House. Whether he'll be a High Commissioner or an Ambassador is a question for the Commonwealth.

Once he gets back his land legs, Sir Alec will have to decide what manner of man he wants. If it's to be a diplomat who knows his way through the Rhodesian undergrowth, the betting would be on Stanley Finland, who was Johnson's deputy there before UDI. Finland has since been promoted to the third tier in the Foreign Office hierarchy, ripe for an ambassadorship, and was the anchorman in London while Sir Alec and his merry crew were negotiating in Salisbury.

But will HMG want a diplomat at all? The temptation may be to seal the marriage with a political kiss. The present is there, Harold Macmillan sent Lord Alport as High Commissioner in a sticky moment to the Rhodesian Federation. A Tory and a peer might be just the thing, even if he has to be elevated for the purpose.

Body blow

THE INDEPENDENT Television Authority agrees the dividing line is thin. Penthouse wanted to advertise in seven seconds flat its Christmas issue. Just the front cover, which has a bare bottom and covered breasts, and the calendar, which has the covers the other way round.

But the authority decreed that girls' magazines were not suitable for family viewing. Down the drain went £10,000. The fine line comes into it because, as Penthouse pointed out, the ITA has accepted ads for Diana Dors telling her all in News of the World, and for the high spots of being a Casanova girl—788 men in one shot, not yet complete life—in the Sun.

Once rejected, Penthouse heads were put back together for a second try. Would the ITA consider showing the ads late tonight? No, even when the children had been put to bed, the ITA wasn't going to take a risk with the grown-ups. When two or more were gathered together, embarrassment was a distinct possibility.

IS LEEDS City Police Force

over the fact that another Home Office investigation into its morale, discipline, and efficiency? The question has to be asked because the two police officers convicted yesterday of assaults on the Nigerian vagrant David Oluwale bring to 12 the number of Leeds officers convicted in the past two years. And when the Home Secretary ordered the previous investigation in 1964 it was on the strength of only five convictions in the courts, three dismissals from the force, and two forced resignations, in two years.

What worried the Home Secretary in 1964 was evidence that officers had been accepting protection money from bookmakers. Two inspectors of constab-

lary who held the inquiry reported that the loyalty and efficiency of the force gave no cause for anxiety. And the Leeds force proved them right. For the next seven years not an officer in the force was convicted. This was followed by nine years in which a total of six officers were sentenced by the courts.

The blackest period began two years ago, and this is the record:

February, 1969: Sergeant, acting as coroner's officer, given suspended sentence of two years' imprisonment for stealing from bodies awaiting inquests.

Force with a record

By Michael Parkin

October, 1969: Constable fined £25 for theft from supermarket.

April, 1970: Constable sent to prison for nine months for burglary.

July, 1970: Constable fined £50 for stealing from handbag of policewoman at police station.

August, 1970: Five officers on charges arising from theft of car accessories. Sergeant sent to prison for three years, one constable for 27 months, and another given a suspended sentence and fined £100. Two officers acquitted.

August, 1970: Constable sent to prison for nine

months for indecent assault on two boys and one girl.

November, 1970: Inspector Ellerker and a sergeant sentenced to nine months' imprisonment for conspiracy to pervert justice.

October, 1970: Constable fined £50 for attempted bribery.

November, 1971: Ex-Inspector Ellerker sent to prison for three years and Sergeant Kitching for 27 months for assaults on David Oluwale.

Any investigation ordered into the affairs of Leeds City Police would need to look very closely into the morale and discipline at Millgarth

Street Police Station, where Inspector Ellerker and Sergeant Kitching were based, and particularly into the reasons of certain officers for not speaking out against the assaults on Mr Oluwale.

Why did not P.C. Seager protest to the Chief Constable when he was ordered by Inspector Ellerker to write untrue statements in his notebook about an assault on Mr Oluwale? He agreed at the trial that if he had been called to give evidence on that assault he would have been committing perjury.

And P.C. Ronald Woodhead told the court he had said nothing at the time

about seeing Sergeant Kitching urinating on Mr Oluwale. "A sergeant could make break my career," he added. "Probably no one would have believed me, a constable against a sergeant and an inspector."

Sergeant Frank Abinski said in evidence that he saw Mr Oluwale "kicked in the region of his private parts." And again this was not reported to superior officers at the time.

David Oluwale had been beaten for 18 months before the first inking of what he had suffered in his lifetime. Reached officers in authority. And that information can not from someone who has seen the assault, but from an unnamed young police cad who was disturbed by a conversation he had overheard.

A special sort of loathing

Harold Jackson in New Delhi: Wednesday

YOU CANNOT escape the lot when they skipped across the political line to their co-patriots and the compensation to which they were entitled got lost in the endless wrangling between the two countries about the division of the national treasury. Pakistan wanted a quarter and eventually got one eighth, and was in no mood to hand over assets to individuals. But the rights and wrongs of this high-down dispute have long since got lost in personal rancour.

And wealth here, particularly for a woman, has an enormous impact on her status. I went to a Hindu wedding the other night: they are going on all over Delhi at the moment because we are in the season of Auspicious Days according to the astrologers. There was an almighty row, incidentally, when the authorities decided on a practice blackout on an Auspicious Day last week, since thousands of fairy lights are an essential part of the junketing. The bride's father meets the bill, of course, and it must have cost him a packet. Five hundred guests, food coming out of our ears, marquee, brass bands and Indian orchestras all got up like breakfast at Tiffany's. But this is the least that social custom allows a dutiful father to get away with.

Most of the taxi drivers are Sikhs, and they got out of the Punjab bringing with them a bitter hatred of the men who took it over. It is these hard-faced men who give the Indian Army much of its push in the West and they have a long history of running amuck when they feel threatened. So what we are dealing with is the fiercest confrontations between the two countries is less a quarrel between two national States than the continuation of a family feud.

Though communalism is still always just around the corner — and the worst slaughter on both sides, it is worth recalling, came in Bengal in 1947 — it is curiously absent from the present crisis. But religious feeling, emotions, none the less, if in a rather tangential conviction.

For many Hindus there is a sense that Pakistan must atone for what it has done these past months in East Bengal. Atonement is a deep undercurrent in Hindu thought, and the cruelties of both sides since last march (the Awami League, after all, took its revenge on the Biharis) have brought a sense of outrage. If world opinion can't get Pakistan to grovel for its misdeeds, then perhaps it will become a moral duty for the Indians.

Oddly enough, one gets the feeling that they really mean it when they say that it will be done more in sorrow than in anger. This must be one of the last bastions of fair play.

Life had been rich and easy then, his father a small businessman, his home the sort of cool bungalow you see along every street in the suburban paradise that makes up New Delhi. Now he gets 200 rupees a month—say 25 a week—and is strenuously trying to make arrangements to emigrate to the United States. He looks sad that the possibility of coming to England seems to have receded for ever and lurches around trying to grasp the intricacies of patrialism.

But his bitterness is not against the English; they are too far away and too incomprehensible to register properly. It is Pakistan on which his focus settles. Had it not been for the Muslim League and its insistence on separation he would have inherited his father's business and, perhaps, he would now be sitting ordering goshal wall biryani in a posh restaurant. Instead he is hovering, pottering, fussing with the cutlery, and dreaming of what might have been. Deep down there is a feeling, fed rather than assuaged by time, that some day he will get his inheritance back.

There is no way of knowing how true the accounts of earlier affluence are, but that is not really the point. The essential element is that the Indian who tells you believes them absolutely himself. The miserable years between have brought immovable conviction.

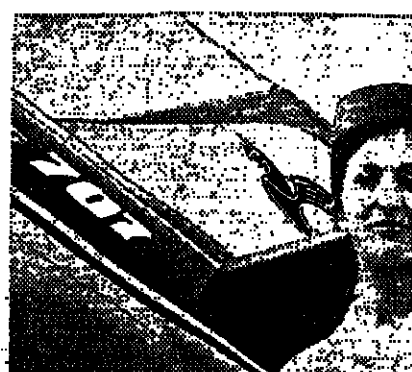
Mrs Sehgal has been a widow since her husband was reported missing, believed killed in 1962. He was one of the first victims when the Chinese came hopping over the wall of the Himalayas to give India its biggest jolt since independence. So she has to work, and had a terrible confrontation with her father-in-law who didn't feel it was at all the thing for a high-class lady to do. She too was born in what is now Pakistan and her eyes also gaze into nowhere when she thinks of past glories.

The family had big estates in the north with servants, estate workers, houses, and a stack in the bank. The whole



Thousands of years ago, according to legend, a fabulous bird called the 'Homa' brought good fortune to Cyrus the Great. He created an empire which has just celebrated its 2,500th anniversary in Iran.

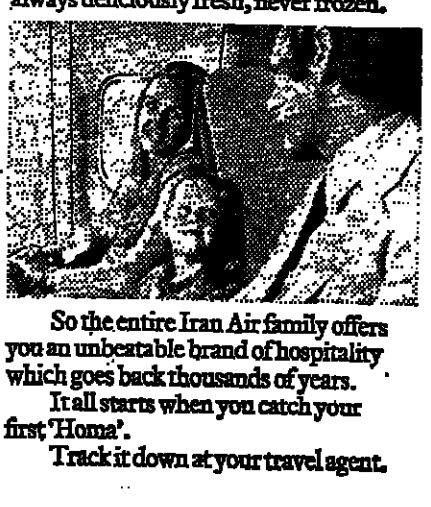
Today you can see this majestic bird on the tailplane of every jet in Iran Air's All-Boeing fleet. It's our inspiration. So our 70's offer a unique service. Direct flights to and from London.



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LOOKING BACK over the past eight and a half years in which I have lived in the US I find that my strongest impressions are largely critical. This is perhaps somewhat surprising since I leave the country with a good deal of affection and admiration for its people. They are certainly very different from ourselves. More different than one assumes on arrival. The fact that we have a roughly common language and have been taught to regard each other as cousins induces false assumptions of similarities. As a result, the Englishman probably makes fewer concessions to Americans than he does, say, to Frenchmen whose "foreignness" he clearly recognises.

After a few years' residence in the US, one realises, if one had not done so before, that there is a "European way of life" compounded from things both spiritual and material, which is important to one. This is absent in North America, and exists as much in England as in France or in Italy. An Englishman might conceivably be homesick in France, but he could not languish for the same reason as he may in America — for nostalgia for that indefinable quality that is Europe.

The question most frequently put by Europeans to their compatriots living in the US concerns the real existence of violence in that country. How great, really, is the danger of being beaten up on the street, or knifed or robbed? The statistics, of course, show that there is indeed a far higher incidence of crime and violence in the US than in any European country. But just how much is one conscious of this in one's daily life? One can speak only for oneself. A French friend says that he never knew real fear before coming to live in New York, even during the years fighting in the Maquis. That was not my own experience in Washington. Yet Washington is the only city in which I have lived where my own friends and acquaintances were among those who had been beaten, raped, yes, even murdered. It would be wrong, however, to say that I was daily, or more than occasionally, conscious of the need for caution, and even more rarely of actual fear.

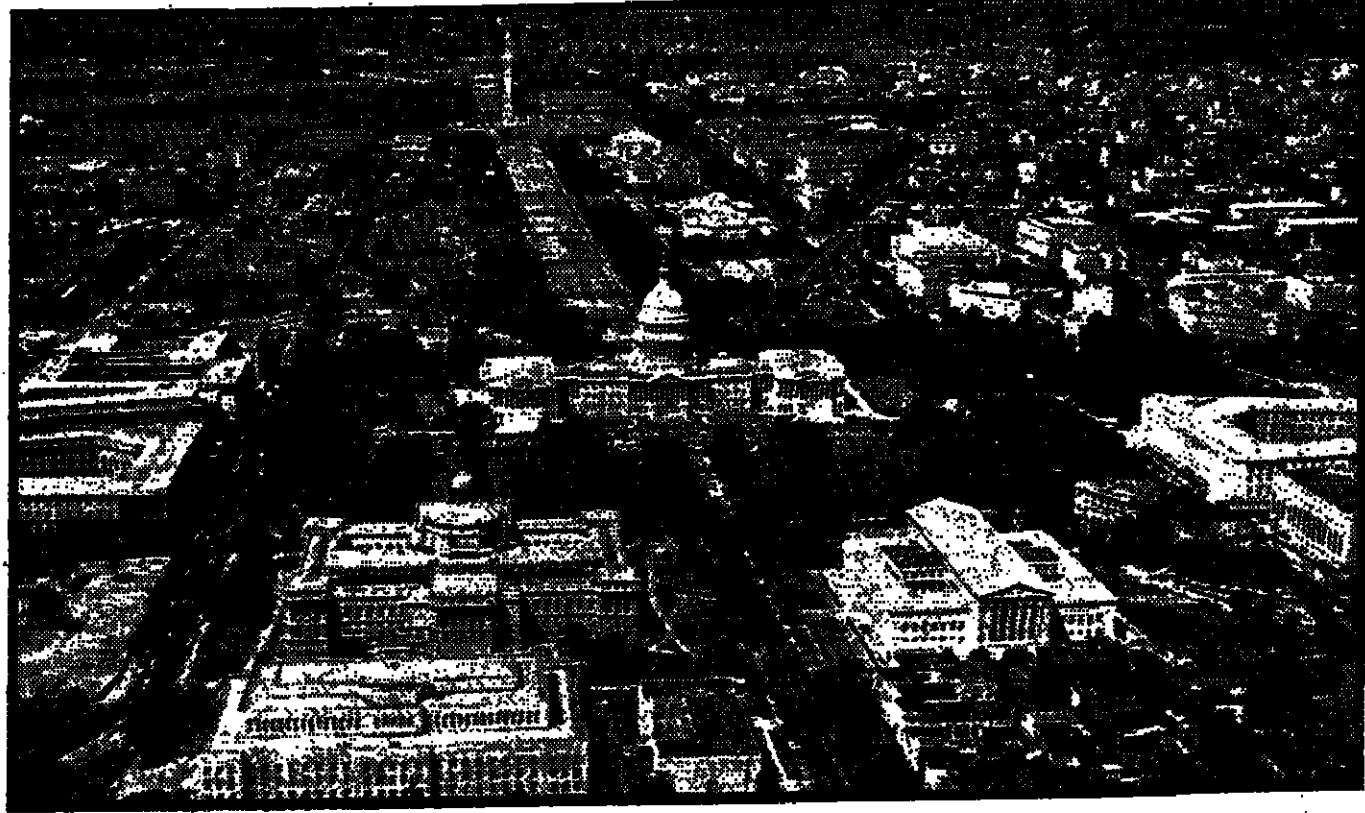
It was not something that preoccupied one. Subconsciously, no doubt, the anxiety was there. One learned to take precautions — normally of a negative character — almost without realising it. There were streets, even areas, where one did not loiter after dark; some where one would not dream of passing through on foot — scarcely even in daytime — nor readily in a car at night. So one didn't.

It was only when one was out of the country that one realised in sudden flashes the extent to which one's personal freedom was curtailed by the extent of violence in the US. I recall walking back to my hotel with a former colleague after the Guardian's 150th anniversary dinner in London this year, well after midnight. It suddenly came to me that the worst something I would never have done in Washington.

What a States to be in!

RICHARD SCOTT has just moved to Paris.

Here he looks back over the eight and a half years that he spent as the Guardian's correspondent in the American capital



In the area of politics, perhaps my outstanding impression is of the infinite complexity of the American system. This complexity seems to arise partly from the vast size and variety of the country and its population; partly, because of the checks and balances established by the Founding Fathers in the written Constitution, and the paramouncy which these give to the Executive, the Legislature, and the Judiciary, each within its own sphere. The Federal character of the Constitution, the fairly wide powers remaining to the individual States, the division of government into three equal branches, tends to complicate and to weaken the central administration in Washington. This is particularly so when the President's party does not control Congress, as has been the case since Mr Nixon came to the White House. The American President's need for caution, compromise, and consensus is normally far greater than that of the British Prime Minister. His potential power is far greater but his actual power to act assertively may often be less.

Civilian "whiz-kids"

Government in the US is complicated not only because of the complete separation of the Executive and the legislative branches with neither responsible to the other, but because of the extraordinarily intricate procedures followed by the latter, and the massive, cumbersome size of the former. Jealousies between the Congress and the White House exist also between the various Departments of State. This results in widespread overlapping and duplication of functions.

In the field of intelligence and security, for example, the area of responsibility remains substantially undefined as between the CIA, FBI, State Department, Pentagon, and White House. They each maintain their own sources and lines of communication. The proliferation of civil servants is so great that most of them seem to spend most of their time in committee telling each other what they have been doing or plan to do.

In London, if you wanted to know what the British Government's policy is on any given subject, you can be fairly sure of getting it from the department concerned — if they will talk at all. In Washington, almost everyone is ready to talk. But you are apt to receive several different and often conflicting answers to your questions, not only from different departments but from within the same department. Particularly in the days of McNamara, the Pentagon spoke with two voices on most issues — those of the military and those of the civilian "whiz-kids." And at the State Department you not infrequently encounter conflicts also between the various sections which deal with different aspects of the same problem. Even if you got your answer from an under-secretary or from the Secretary of State, himself, you could not be sure if it represented Government policy until you had checked it at least with the White House. And in most important areas, what the White House wants only becomes law if and when the Congress approves it.

The passage of a Bill through Congress is devious and slow, and subject to innumerable pitfalls. The commit-

tee stage is more thorough, more important, and, normally, more public than in Parliament. A committee chairman like Representative Wilbur Mills has more real power than have most Cabinet Ministers. The two Chambers of Congress are much more nearly equal in importance than they are at the Palace of Westminster. In the Senate there is also almost limitless scope for delaying tactics by strong-willed minorities.

A lesser complication in the American political system is the fact that the Supreme Court can also have a hand in policy making — not directly, of course, but through its interpretation of the laws and the Constitution. In recent years this has been particularly evident in the field of civil rights. The practical impact of the civil rights pact has depended a great deal on the manner in which they have been interpreted and the vigour with which they have been enforced. In both respects the Supreme Court and the lower courts have played a major role.

The American system is based as firmly upon law at least as is any other system. Yet its legal procedure is clearly not functioning too well. For one thing, there is a serious shortage of judges. This is one reason for the appalling delays in the dispensation of justice. Another is the absence of anything comparable to the English magistrates' court in which dozens of minor charges are summarily dealt with at a single sitting, each one of which, in the US, becomes a full-blown legal hearing before a judge. The legal system is further clogged and the application of justice further delayed by the enormously wide opportunities for appeal.

Like so many of the less happy consequences of the American Constitution, the deviousness of the legal system results primarily from the determination of the Founding Fathers that the freedoms and the democratic processes which did not then obtain in England should be enjoyed to the greatest possible extent and for perpetuity by the peoples of America.

Shoddy goods

What of the much-vaunted American way of life? Here again, it is regrettably the critical rather than the praiseworthy aspects which seem to come to mind — the frustrations and inefficiencies and the needless waste of time. It may well be, of course, that the experience is the same today in the countries of Western Europe as they too enter into the era of affluence. The lesson perhaps it can even be elevated into a law of social economics — which I learned during my eight and a half years in Washington is that the quality of life deteriorates as the standard of living rises. Or, perhaps more precisely phrased, the quality of life for the well-to-do is in inverse relation to the quantity of money in the hands of the people.

The standard of workmanship in the US is low. With some exceptions, the quality of goods is shoddy — from motorcars to plastic toys to clothes. They are not intended to last. Some times this is reflected in their price. Americans rarely repair, they replace. This is not an economic practice — at least not for the consumer.

Packaging, however, is outstanding. In general a good deal of thought has

gone into the appearance and, where applicable, into the practical utility of the package. The admirable practice is the increasingly being adopted in the supermarket, where almost all American buy their food, of displaying the comparative cost per pound of the rival brands of a product. Many things, however, are packaged and have to be assembled at home. As often as not, one or more vital part is found to be missing or deformed. The package has to be taken back. The indifference of the shop attendant, when one can be found, implies that the experience is normal.

Home delivery in the US is rare. Some things, of course, have to be delivered. The results are normally exasperating. First, you are never told just when the delivery will be made, sometimes, not even the day. You just have to hope you will be at home. If not you have to pay redelivery charges. Even more frustrating is that the delivery of large, heavy objects is frequently made without the means of getting them into your house. This happened when some of our furniture arrived from England in five-square packing cases, and when a new table was delivered. On both occasions there was only the driver of the van, without any sort of mechanical lifting or handling device.

The quality and cost of almost any form of personal service is deplorable. If your plumbing or kitchen utilities go wrong, your first spend hours trying to mend them yourself. Tolerable domestic help is extremely hard to come by. And in Washington a cleaning woman will not normally come for less than eight hours a day — at 70p an hour or \$3.60 a day. There is a marked reluctance by many businessmen to answer letters, and where one's relations with a business have to be conducted via computer, inaction can be almost paralysing. It took me seven months, letters, and four telephone calls to get the delivery of my newspapers stopped.

There is, however, at least one aspect of American life which is notably superior to anything I know in Europe. This is the road system. There are more and better and safer roads in the US than anywhere in Europe. Although both on the west and the east coasts you get appalling masses of traffic flowing into or out of major cities at rush hour, normally the traffic does move forward, relentlessly, a little slowly, but nonetheless, and in pages are rare. And since the quality of driving is normally an indirect reflection to the quality of the road system, driving in America is less hazardous than in most other countries. It only because the American driver has no need to weave in and out of the traffic, he appears more courteous than does the European on the narrow European roads. Even on the longest journeys it is possible to forecast one's time of arrival with considerable accuracy. Virtually all towns of any size are bypassed so that you can determine the time required for most journeys by dividing the distance by the speed, you expect. All American roads, however, are subject to a speed limit.

Who's who at the polls? by David McKie

IN MARCH this year, the Labour Party at Goole in Yorkshire selected a candidate to fight a byelection without realising that he had stood at Louth, 45 miles away, in the General Election nine months before, as a Liberal. When this fact was gently pointed out, there were howls of rage and pain, even suggestions that the fellow should stand down. But he didn't; and he now sits at Westminster.

Confusions of this kind are no fault of Mr Fred Craig, of Political Reference Publications, who from his fact-finding factory in Chichester is gradually documenting all there is to document about British elections. His latest book, *British Parliamentary Election Results, 1950-70*, published today at £9.50, follows an earlier book setting out results since 1918. With the help of Mr Craig, Labour selection committees should in future be able to furnish themselves with the complete antecedents of each aspiring candidate, even if his only previous appearance at the hustings was as a Prohibitionist in the middle twenties.

The results span nearly 700 pages, from Barons Court, where

the defeated candidate in 1955 was Sir K. S. Joseph, Bart, to Mid-Ulster, presently represented by Miss J. B. Devlin. On the way, various kinds of political candidate emerge. There are those who flit from place to place in search of Parliamentary success, of whom one of the most persistent seems to be Neville Sandelson (seven constituencies), now safely come to rest as Member for Hayes and Harlington; though H. D. Moore, beats even that: he has been beaten as a Liberal at Manchester Moss Side (1945), and Blackley (1950), and as a Conservative at Leigh (1951), Farnworth (byelection, 1952), Salford West (1955), Gorton (1959). Ashton-under-Lyne (1964 and 1966), and Wythenshawe (1970). In 1955 he fell short of election by a mere 859 votes.

Then there are those who tend to stay put, slogging away at the same seat however unwinnable it may look: like J. Chalmers, defeated Conservative candidate at South Shields in every election from 1950 to 1964. Sometimes, this must make for rather boring contests: at Eastington, four successive general elections (1951 to 1964) consisted of E. Shinwell (Labour) defeating G. W. Ros-

siter (Conservative). There wasn't even the consolation of speculation on who was going to win since the smallest Labour majority in the series was over 25,000.

Mr Craig will also steer you through the pitfalls caused by similarities of names. In one Welsh contest, three out of four candidates were called Jones. How did it come about that since the war the Conservatives have sported two MPs called Sir Ian Orr-Ewing, and two called Sir R. Glyn? Was the keeper of the law of averages asleep? Names more familiar in other contexts occasionally occur — E. R. Dexter and R. G. Marlar, cricketers; J. L. Manning sportsman — all Conservative candidates, and the present editor of the Sunday Express appears as a Liberal candidate at Dundee.

Mr Craig has also analysed the results of each constituency to see which way it has swung since 1950. On the whole, a cursory reading of his results suggests that areas which started Right have got Right, and those which were Left have moved further Left. The overall swing to the Conservatives in England in the period was 1.7 per cent; in Scotland there was

a 3.3 per cent swing to Labour. Wales did move a little away from its predominantly Labour allegiance though only by 0.9 per cent. The English counties

have moved Rightwards — by 3.3 per cent; the towns less so (0.7 per cent, with a 0.8 swing to Labour in London). Of the 18 constituencies which have been best for the Conservatives since 1950, eight are in the West Midlands; Brierley Hill, top of the list with 15.4 per cent, Oldbury, the two Wolverhamptons, Blisdon, Birmingham, Perry Barr, Dudley, and West Bromwich.

Labour has gained most ground in Glasgow where eight constituencies have swung to Labour by between 10 and 16 per cent; and in Liverpool, where Exchange, Wavertree, West Derby, and Harold Wilson's Huyton are all far safer Labour strongholds than they were 20 years ago.

Not the least fascination of these tables is the social and cultural changes which they suggest and which books of this kind cannot of course explore. Any sociologist, or any novelist for that matter, looking for a fruitful field of inquiry into the way Britain has changed in these 20 years could well take Mr Craig's new book as his starting point.

Exchange at the last General Election). But others are part of regional patterns which election experts have never tended to undertake. What is it in the air of the West Midlands which make its political feel confirmed by these figures — so different from so many other industrial areas? Or — to take one more provocative example — from many possible ones — how does one explain what has happened in West Gloucestershire, which has shown a 9.9 per cent swing to the Conservatives since 1950 — far higher than any of the constituencies about it? This is the land of the Forest of Dean, whose strange individual, rather dour nature has been made familiar in the writings of D. C. G. Potter, the television playwright (and unsuccessful Labour candidate for Herefordshire East in 1964).

Not the least fascination of these tables is the social and cultural changes which they suggest and which books of this kind cannot of course explore. Any sociologist, or any novelist for that matter, looking for a fruitful field of inquiry into the way Britain has changed in these 20 years could well take Mr Craig's new book as his starting point.

not expecting the tugged forelock, wearied by the relentless, loudmouthed troublemaker who is not content to hold out his bowl in silence. Our system is right and it has done great things but the time has come for much greater participation in decision-making. Appointment by the Minister of the governing body and selection by that body of its own advisers has given rise to the ingrowth inseparable from such a system.

In passing, there are bodys such as the BBC, much won, afflicted by rejection of democracy than is the Arts Council but that is no reason why an example should not be set. Very little of what Mr Marowitz says is true and none of his fears are justified, and if we introduce a nominated or representative element into the Arts Council, balancing appointments from above by election and below, the effect might be to reduce rather than to increase his grant. Nevertheless, I am convinced that this is a reform which should now be taken, that justice may not only be done but may be clearly seen to be done by the public which finances the money, but also by the who receive it.

As for Mr Marowitz, he would be well advised to examine own professional activities as ask himself why it is that now gets more than some applicants and less than others. He comes up with no answer other than his present ludicrous explanation, he would be unlikely to get an informed reply from the Arts Council than from the Ombudsman. Why not them?

As a move in the direct of open patronage, or requested and openly granted financial disbursements but the thin or refused, the application reply might well be public

What's wrong in the Arts Council?

by Hugh Jenkins MP



on the Drama Panel, I can say that I personally know of only one case of a member persistently and openly attempting to argue his own case. He had the same idea as Mr Marowitz of what service on the Drama Panel was about and he did not last long, nor, I think, did his efforts have any effect one way or the other.

I would also agree that obviously the Arts Council itself cannot be informed about every decision. It knows about them all but it cannot investigate them all and must delegate to finance sub-committees and its accountant officers. All this has been examined time and again and on every occasion the Arts Council has emerged with congratulations and high praise from people who often began with suspicion and hostility.

The interesting question is why the suspicion and hostility exists and what, if anything, can be done to eradicate it?

The chief reason is that there is not, never has been, and probably never will be, enough money to go round to satisfy all reasonable claims, so there will always be justifiably angry and rejected claimants about. The second reason is that Arts Council subsidies are based on value judgments which means that some of them must be wrong. The third reason is that

the Arts Council must take a global view of its responsibilities, and that no recipient or category of recipients need do more than see the problem from the angle of their own dire need.

On the first point, there is over-reliance on the Arts Council and insufficient effort is made to raise money from local sources. The Arts Council now has an annual income equivalent to the cost of Concorde for nearly two weeks so we can't expect to improve on that under the present regime.

On the second point, it would be possible to evolve a patronage system similar to that operating in some Eastern European countries under which there is a straight percentage addition to the box-office take. Alternatively, we could go to the opposite extreme and the question could be largely determined by the depth of local pockets fortified by income tax relief in the American fashion. Both of these methods are free from artistic and value judgments but they do not appear to produce a fraction of the value per pound spent as does our own system with all its faults and almost insoluble problems. The adoption of either of these systems would remove much hostility and suspicion at the cost of

killing the Open Space and many other theatres. The psychological good health of your contributor would be bought at too high a price.

On the third point, among the many factors which have to be taken into consideration is the need to maintain great national companies, the importance of keeping theatres reasonably available to the bulk of the population who don't live in London, and the necessity of supporting experimental youth.

Taking all these factors into consideration, the Parliamentary Commission might well decide that the Arts Council is already overestimating the importance of Mr Marowitz rather than the contrary. I think he would be wrong but in any event we are unlikely to know, as an examination of the Arts Council (which, quite recently has been examined by the Public Accounts Committee and the Estimates Committee), is not within the scope of the Ombudsman. The Arts Council emerged triumphantly from both these pretty hostile and ready examinations.

So is everything perfect? Not a bit of it. The trouble with the Arts Council is that it is too damn much like a public Lady Bountiful disdaining but the thin or refused, the application reply might well be public

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EEC to refuse barrier to EFTA

From RICHARD NORTON TAYLOR

Brussels, November 24
If the Americans, Europeans, and Japanese still have to negotiate a world monetary settlement there is a great deal of room for agreement already between the Common Market and the United States on the trade front.

The EEC has always said that it would refuse to consider wrapping specific new trade concessions for the removal of the American 10 per cent import surcharges. This is something that the US Treasury Secretary, Mr. Connally, has consistently demanded.

But last week Mr. Connally himself recognised that the surcharge had the effect of an exchange rate adjustment. Meanwhile Mr. William Eberle, now President Nixon's special representative for trade has said that the surcharge should be regarded as a "temporary devaluation" and as such should be abolished once a monetary settlement can be agreed.

The EEC is not going to give in to American protests against the proposal for extending industrial free trade to the four EFTA neutrals that have not applied for full membership.

Next Monday, the six foreign ministers are expected to draft a reply to Washington, pointing out that such free trade arrangements are entirely in accordance with the GATT, and that it would be both commercially impracticable, and politically impossible, to re-erect trade barriers within EFTA.

Nor is the Community likely to change the essentially protectionist principles of its agricultural policy that is still considered one of the essential ingredients, if somewhat battered, of integration.

Indeed, Mr. Sicco Mansholt, the European commissioner responsible for agriculture, told the European Parliament last week that he considered "reasonable" the proposals for increases of up to 8 per cent in farm prices next season.

This will lead to higher trade barriers against imports as the Community's levies against the outside world increase in parallel to the internal Community prices.

One area where the Community might budge—though probably not soon enough for the US in its rather haphazard policy of granting preferential trade agreements with a series of Mediterranean countries. Many of these will come up for renewal in 1974.

But the Common Market is likely to commit itself to a new world-wide round of trade talks covering industry and agriculture, as well as non-tariff barriers to trade next year. There are growing indications that the US will be satisfied with such a commitment.

Ideally, the Common Market wants a monetary settlement by the end of the year, preparations for world-wide trade negotiations next year, and actual negotiations to take place in 1973. But the Common Market countries are willing to bring forward such a programme.

The Six are at last beginning to appreciate that the policy of waiting for all and sundry to come to them to beg for (and get) special trade pacts is scarcely acceptable, particularly to those, like US, Canada, and Australia, which would be left out in the cold.

New GATT talks plea by Japan
Japan yesterday formally proposed a new round of world-wide tariff-cutting negotiations. Mr. Toshio Kimura, Japanese Minister for Economic Planning, told the twenty-seventh session of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in Geneva that it is essential for GATT to hold a new round of multilateral trade negotiations as a concerted action by its 30 members.

He acknowledged that global negotiations of this kind would need elaborate and lengthy preparations, but said it was of the utmost importance for GATT members to reach a consensus at this session that the negotiations should be held as soon as their preparations were complete.

Mr. Olivier Long, general secretary GATT, appealed for an immediate reversal of protectionist policies before irreparable damage is done to the world's trading system.

He told the conference that the present situation "is more menacing than at any time since the end of the Second World War."

Thorneycroft in, Crowther out of THF chair

Lord Crowther has been sacked as chairman of the divided board of Trust Houses Forte. His replacement is Lord Thorneycroft, a former Chancellor of the Exchequer, and a Forte nominee to the board.

Following yesterday's critical meeting, Lord Thorneycroft issued the following statement:

"I have today accepted the position of chairman of THF at the request of its board. I am not now concerned to argue the issues which for some time divided the board. It appears to me that the interest of the shareholders will be best served by enabling the executives to concentrate as they now can upon the management of the business."

"THF possesses great resources not simply in the form of its fixed assets, which are considerable, but also in the shape of able and experienced management now working under the leadership of one of the most experienced able managers in this field. Many of our employees have devoted their lives to the service of the company and are rightly proud of the reputation which they have established and will I am confident maintain."

"The interests of shareholders will be best served if we create the conditions in which these managers and men and women can make their full contribution to a common purpose."



Lord Crowther

European aero industry collaboration 'chaotic'

By DAVID FAIRHALL, Air Correspondent

Europe's aerospace industry should be gradually reshaped until it consists of two major international airframe companies and two major engine manufacturers. This view of the future was presented yesterday by Mr. Allen Greenwood, president of the Society of British Aerospace Companies, when he gave the R. K. Pierson Memorial Lecture at Weybridge.

Mr. Greenwood described the present network of aerospace collaboration in Europe as "fairly chaotic." This was not to say that individual collaborative arrangements were not working well. "But it does demonstrate pretty clearly the difficulty of moving to what seems to me the next logical step—the forging of more permanent links between the European aerospace companies."

Since Mr. Greenwood is also deputy managing director of the British Aircraft Corpora-

tion, his concept of a European structure is made doubly interesting by what he does not propose—that one of the two airframe groups should be built round a merger between BAC and Hawker Siddeley.

The question of whether to encourage the formation of one big national group to represent British interests in the Common Market or to allow both the major airframe companies to find their own European partners is one that the Whitehall committee chaired by Sir Robert Marshall is now considering to produce a long-term strategy for this country's aircraft industry.

In Mr. Greenwood's opinion, "the permanent links ought to be European because they would be wholly within the spirit of the EEC."

In his lecture he laid down

three primary objectives: "Firstly, the maintenance within Europe of an element of inter-European competition thereby guarding against the apathy and difficulties which a monopoly can so easily create."

"Secondly, that this competition should be international within Europe and not nationalistic."

"Thirdly, that the ultimate groupings should include companies which together could sensibly handle programmes for the civil airlines of Europe and for the Air Forces of the NATO alliance."

Before these long-term objectives could be achieved, certain intermediate steps would have to be taken along the lines of the Panavia company, created to build the multi-role combat aircraft (MRCA) in Germany, Britain and Italy.

An international legal framework for such joint ventures was needed.

Hanson Costain merger talks

Talks have started for a multi-million pound get-together between public works contractors Richard Costain and Hanson Trust, the fast-expanding transport, building and industrial services group.

The two groups—which each carry a price tag of some £25 million at current market levels—today said that discussions were under way for a merger deal. This company would make bids for the shares in both Costain and Hanson.

On the London stock market Costain shares jumped 15p to a new high for the year of 235p, while Hanson went up 21p to 178p. Although Costain is by far the bigger of the two groups in terms of assets and annual turnover, its profits record is not as impressive as that of Hanson's.

So it is understood that both companies are approaching the get-together on the basis of a fifty-fifty deal.

Hanson Trust, which is headed by the millionaire industrialist Mr. James Hanson, last year turned in profits of around £2,400,000 from a turnover of £47 millions.

Costain, on the other hand, produced £3,800,000 profit in its last financial year, on turnover of £108 millions.

£1.6M fall at Johnson Matthey

Johnson Matthey, the London bullion dealers now headed by Lord Robens reports a further slump in interim earnings with profits down from £3.7 millions to £2.06 millions for the six months ended September.

Last year group profits fell 31 per cent to £6.3 millions and profits for the first three months of the current year were down 42 per cent. Nevertheless the board is to maintain the interim dividend at 34 per cent.

Lord Robens also says that the pattern of last year's figures which showed a substantial drop in profits in the second six months is "unlikely to be repeated this year." A year ago Johnson Matthey reported a £4 millions deficit, by a Swiss subsidiary. In addition, silver prices have been exceptionally low this year.

Firms wary over prospects with Rhodesia

By VICTOR KEEGAN, Industrial Correspondent

British companies gave a cautious welcome to the agreement between the British and Rhodesian governments, but it is too early to say yet whether the effects will be beneficial to British industry.

It remains to be seen whether Rhodesia will prove as attractive to British industry as it was in the years before UDI when exports and imports were both running at the level of £30 millions a year. Even if the agreement is ratified by both countries and trade resumed, British companies will have to weigh up the advantages of investing in Rhodesia against the adverse effect this could have on their trade with emerging Black African countries which could be much more important in the long run.

This applies especially to international giants like British Leyland, Lorch, Dunlop RST, Tate and Lyle, Shell and RTZ.

Tate and Lyle, for instance, has already built up its plant in neighbouring Zambia and believes that Rhodesia has little chance of ever returning to her former output of sugar. Also the Commonwealth sugar producers have just concluded a deal with the EEC now that Britain is joining and it is questionable whether Rhodesia would be able to join this.

Dunlop, which has also built a plant in Zambia to replace lost Rhodesian output, said yesterday that it hopes to regain control of its Rhodesia plant.

British Leyland said yesterday that it was hoping to resume operations at its three producing plants in Rhodesia making cars, commercial vehicles and Land Rovers "to the benefit of BLMC and everyone in Rhodesia."

The group had 27 per cent of the car market through BMC before UDI, which came to 4,200 cars. BMC had a plant capable of assembling 5,000 cars with 25 per cent local content.

Triumph and Rover had 5.4 per cent of the market. BLMC has greater investment in the rest of Black Africa which it would obviously not want to put at risk. Its future planning strategy could well be influenced by the reactions of the rest of Black Africa to the settlement.

The tobacco industry, which spent £21 millions on imports from Rhodesia in the year before UDI, welcomed the prospect that Rhodesia may once again be a major supplier of tobacco to Britain.

Imperial Tobacco estimates that sanctions cost the company an extra £10 millions and the industry £16½ millions when

they were imposed. Some reports suggest that Rhodesia has 200 million lb of unsold tobacco stockpiled in warehouses.

If sanctions were lifted this would be bound to affect the world market but British companies pointed out that it was not known what condition the stock was in. Even so a combination of destocking and the current Rhodesian crop coming on to the market next year is bound to produce lower prices than for US tobacco—indeed it will probably bring world prices down generally.

Imperial Tobacco Group Ltd. puts at £2.4 millions the book value of its investments in Rhodesia, which have been kept on a "care and maintenance" basis.

British-American Tobacco Co. has a 49 per cent interest in two cigarette manufacturing and marketing companies in Rhodesia. It also owns 100 per cent of Export Leaf Tobacco Co. of Africa Ltd, which, along with all other leaf exporting companies, came under Rhodesian government control when trade sanctions were applied.

As well as British tobacco firms, companies in other countries also have been substantial buyers of Rhodesian tobacco, which one tobacco man described as a good quality Virginia-type.

Rhodesian tobacco, however, had a favoured access to the British market before independence because of Rhodesia's colony status.

Dollar dives to new lows

The dollar hit new lows against several currencies yesterday in one of its hardest falls since the monetary crisis broke out in August. It held steady against the pound only because of the intervention of the Bank of England on the foreign exchange market.

The belief held by many dealers that the Group of Ten meeting in Rome on Tuesday would agree on a formal devaluation of the dollar was the main cause for the nervous selling. Public holidays in the United States today, and the recent weakness on Wall Street were contributory factors.

Dealers estimate that the Bank of England has absorbed a couple of hundred million dollars or more—in the past couple of weeks in an effort to keep the revaluation of the pound at below 4 per cent.

Other central banks to intervene in yesterday's dealings were the Banque de France, which has to keep the dollar rate steady because the franc is still on a fixed parity against the dollar, and the Italian Reserve Bank.

Other Continental central banks stayed largely out of the fray. At the close of dealings in Frankfurt the Deutschmark stood at 3.090 marks against the dollar, an effective revaluation of 11 per cent after hectic dealings amid wild rumours.

The present conditions existing on foreign exchange markets reflect "psychological factors more than reality. The faintest rumours, especially on the Continent, are often sufficient to lead to sharp fluctuations usually against the dollar."

The pound

	Closing	Change	Previous
New York	2.49 1/2	+ 1/8	2.49 1/4
London	2.49 1/2	+ 1/8	2.49 1/4
Frankfurt	3.090	+ 0.005	3.085
Paris	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Geneva	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Basle	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Zurich	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Stockholm	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Copenhagen	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Helsinki	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Oslo	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Amsterdam	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Brussels	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Luxembourg	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Madrid	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Barcelona	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Valencia	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Seville	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Bilbao	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Porto	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Lisbon	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Madrid	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Barcelona	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Valencia	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Seville	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Bilbao	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Porto	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00
Lisbon	48.25	+ 0.25	48.00

Drury Hlds

Orme Developments has acquired 31 per cent of Drury Holdings at 100p per share from its directors and their families and is having discussions with the board of Drury Holdings which may lead to a merger of the two companies.

NEWMAN-TONKS LIMITED
Activities include the manufacture of architectural and builders' hardware, Briton Door Closing Devices, non-ferrous tube and extrusions and components for a wide range of trades.

MERGER BENEFITS ACCRUING

Extracts from the circulated Statement of Mr. Herbert C. Sheel (Group Chairman):

It gives me great pleasure to report on the first full year's trading of your Company since the merger, which I deem most satisfactory bearing in mind the uncertainty of the Building Trade and the fluctuations in metal prices during the period.

The profit of £305,023 justifies the Directors in recommending a final dividend of 20%, making a total of 28% less income tax for the full year, as forecast in the merger document.

Exciting and significant activities are taking place within the Group where the full benefits of a merger are being planned and implemented throughout. The preparations for this, together with factory moves to utilize space economically, the rationalisation of plant and products and the re-organisation of the management from the Main Board to Shop Floor level has obviously had its effect on the profit; the benefits are long term and only just becoming effective in the current year.

Our products are mostly used in the Building Trade which at long last seems to have an air of revival and confidence, judging by our forward order book. To further our range of products we formed during the year N.T. Locks Ltd. which together with other newly introduced products will have considerable impact in the Builders Hardware Trade.

I am happy to report that our Overseas Companies have increased their profits, which together with direct exports, are making a significant contribution to the Group results.

THE SCOTTISH METROPOLITAN PROPERTY CO. LTD.

Solent points from the report for the year ended 15th August, 1971 and the statement of the Chairman, Mr. J. A. Walton, J.P., LL.D.

* Group Revenue increased from £1,469,098 to £1,724,431 and Profits Available for Distribution rose from £442,037 to £500,930 representing an increase of more than 13%.

* The Directors declare total dividends for the year of 15% (1970-14%) amounting to £450,355 (1970-£419,493) leaving a carry forward to Reserves of £50,575 (1970-£22,566).

* A Scrip Issue of 1-for-5 is proposed and the Directors anticipate maintaining a 15% dividend on the increased capital, equivalent to an effective increase of 20%.

* Property Expenditure during the year totalled £2,200,778 bringing the book value of the total portfolio to £22,259,293 as at 15th August, 1971.

* Prospects and Future Growth—A large number of reviews and revaluations will take effect in the current decade some from the basis of rents recently achieved. I would consider that the present net rental income will at least double by 1981. This estimate takes no account of any future increases in rental levels over the decade and it also of course excludes the benefits of acquisitions and developments now under negotiation and of any further transactions which will take place within that period.

* At the Annual General Meeting held yesterday, the Chairman stated that since the year end the company had acquired properties at a cost of £2.2 million of which £1.1 million had previously been announced. Further acquisitions are at the stage of negotiation.

* The FT All-Share Index hardly moved yesterday. It ended the day at 180.50 as against 180.37 previously.

CITY COMMENT

RHODESIA Blacklash to sell-out

NO SURPRISE reactions to the Rhodesian settlement news on the London Stock Exchange. Gain of up to 28 points in Rhodesians loans were common, while there were smart gains in those stocks with extensive blocked Rhodesian interests.

Turner and Newall (with £12 millions of blocked profits due) went up 10p, Stocklake 11½p, Lloyds Bank International 12p, and Minet 15p.

Other firms which previously did a good trade with Rhodesia fared likewise with good gains recorded by tobacco groups, car makers, sugar firms and mining groups.

On paper this reaction makes sense of course. British companies should not just get their back-profits unfrozen, but will have access to cheaper raw materials and have the Rhodesian markets reopened to them.

But how long will the market euphoria last with the settlement? For first impressions may turn sour when realism enters the picture. Although the Rhodesian economy is currently under siege, this may have had the effect of strengthening it rather than weakening it, in offering protection against world wide cut-throat competition.

Once reopened to outside competition it may need propping up for a while, and under these sort of conditions it is difficult to see that Government paying out the built-up interest on its loans of more than £50 millions and allowing foreign companies to withdraw profits.

Any repayments and withdrawals seemed destined to be phased over a fairly lengthy period.

Then too those companies that had operating companies in Rhodesia have often built new plants in neighbour-

ing black African countries. Those who bought supplies there have found alternative sources, and those that exported to Rhodesia are going to find it difficult muscling back into the market now dominated by the Germans and Japanese through sanctions busting.

Finally, of course, companies with other African interests could well find a backlash reaction against British business if there is any talk of a sell-out of black African interests. Such an uproar seems certain from some sections of black Africa whatever the terms of the settlement turn out to be. Threats of nationalisation can be expected from some quarters.

So it is a case of reflecting on the gains that have already been made rather than chasing them up any further. Perhaps Turner and Newall is the big exception where the settlement is bound to bring big and lasting benefits.

Apart from those back profits there are annual profits of £2 millions before tax which can be consolidated in the future, and access to cheap supplies of asbestos.

HARRISON
Asset strippers within

ROYAL PRINTER Harrison and Sons is not waiting for that asset stripper I warned of back in September to step in. Yesterday it announced plans to redevelop some of its land at Hayes, at present utilised as factory accommodation for various of the group's activities.

Some freehold land, together with other land occupied by the group at a rent of £13,000 a year in an adjoining site, has been sold to Sun Life Assurance Society. Harrison will lease back these lands comprising in all 6.01 acres and will build a modern, fully equipped

factory. The lease will be for 35 years at an annual rental of £107,000 with seven year reviews.

Sun Life has entered into a commitment of £1.126 million which will be paid up as to £275,000 for the purchase of Harrison's land, £275,000 for the adjoining land, and, after deducting building works and professional fees, the balance will be paid to Harrison.

The net effect then is likely to be that Harrison will end up with a modern enlarged factory, and £573,000 in cash at the bank. Just how good a deal it ultimately turns out to be for shareholders depends on how well the board invests that cash.

It may well be that they are getting some first class advice. The buyer of a large block of shares earlier in the year was a merchant bank with extensive contacts in the property world, and it is interesting to speculate whether it was their prompting that led to this deal.

HAMBRO
Pointer to the future?

HAMBROS BANK has had more than a fair share of trouble in recent weeks: bad debt, sale of its American subsidiary following a change of legislation in the US, and now the retreat from Italy, in what would have been its largest venture into the Common Market.

The bank has now officially confirmed that it sold its 16 per cent stake in La Centrale, a large industrial and financial group in which it held together with its Italian associate, Sigmor Sordana. It had 37 per cent of the votes because of a two-tier equity system under which some shares had a bigger say.

In a bitter reference to Italian commercial practice, which three weeks ago put an

end to La Centrale's attempt to take over the Bastogi group, a leading holding company, a spokesman for the bank said that Hambros was "disappointed in encountering strong opposition and in view of the obvious strength of feeling engendered we have decided to withdraw."

The buyer is Compendium SA, a Luxembourg company, and although the price has not been disclosed Hambros says that it sold its stake at cost price.

Quite clearly, Hambros will have to do some rethinking about how to proceed overseas. But the issue goes beyond the troubles of a single bank. It touches the core of the City's strongly held belief that it will be making hay in the Common Market.

Such a conclusion could look right on paper but not work so quickly in practice, especially when it is a common occurrence within the market for nationalistic reasons to prevail over business considerations.

MAPLE
Further to fall?

THE SHARES of Maple, the international furnishing group have often had their exciting movements, but yesterday it was all depression following a first half profits slump which caused dealers to mark them down 10½p to 117½p. Even this relatively lush rating is unlikely to be held unless the board can pull something really tangible out of the hat, or that often expected takeover bid materialises.

Yesterday the board once again dangled the property possibilities in front of shareholders. It claims that Camden Borough Council will agree to the redevelopment of the Tottenham Court Road branch. A decision from the Greater London Council is awaited, but

the board confidently predicts that development will start soon.

The short-term trading prospect can hardly be described as healthy. Margins have obviously taken a beating for the pre-tax profit for the six months to end July has halved from £356,000 to £170,000 in spite of an increase of about 13 per cent to £6.3 millions in sales.

The directors make the obvious point that the half-year's profit is not up to last year's exceptional performance. Rather oddly they add that it is in line with the group's trading pattern which is expected to continue for the full year. Thus the maintenance of a 15 per cent total dividend for 1971-2 rests on rather shaky ground.

Taking the most optimistic view, it is difficult to see earnings of more than 12 per cent for 1971-2, against around 16 per cent for 1970-1. Meantime shareholders must derive what comfort they can from the unchanged 5 per cent interim dividend.

To date there have been two weak spots. Profits of the manufacturing division have been hit by escalating costs and difficulties with shipping contracts, but as already announced the Cheltenham factory has been closed down. The cyclical Lablanc subsidiary, which basically sells arts and antiques in the Far East, has had an off period, but there are hopes for a second-half recovery.

The London furnishing division has given a good account of itself and the provincial stores are "amplifying the policy of trading from smaller premises" but at present the assets backing of around £25p per share and bid hopes are the most compelling reasons for holding a share which is selling on a potential P/E of 38.0.

● The FT All-Share Index hardly moved yesterday. It ended the day at 180.50 as against 180.37 previously.

clusion' North sea oil

Rome hopes from Klasen

By JOHN FIEHN

Herr Karl Klasen, President of the Deutsche Bundesbank, said yesterday that he has reason to hope that some progress toward solving the international monetary crisis can be made at the Group of Ten meeting starting in Rome on Tuesday.

He would not, however, exclude the need for another group meeting, either late in December or in January, implying that final agreement appears unlikely in Rome.

His deputy, Herr Othmar Emminger, said final agreement meant a general realignment of parities and the removal of the 10 per cent United States import surcharge.

Herr Klasen and Herr Emminger said a modest dollar devaluation should be part of the general realignment of parities. Both central bankers were speaking after a Bundesbank central bank council meeting.

Herr Klasen said that if the US was not prepared to devalue the dollar within a general realignment of currencies, there would not be any hope for a solution of the monetary crisis.

"Since the US Treasury Secretary has said there is a chance in Rome, I think I have good reason to hope for some progress," he said.

It would be premature to speculate what will happen if the Rome conference failed to achieve anything.

"Then," he said, "we will have to talk in Europe," implying that the EEC would have to act jointly.

Herr Klasen told me there was no basic to reports that Rinaldo Ossola, vice-president of Italy's central bank, had submitted an EEC realignment plan to Mr Connolly in Washington. Such reports are "nonsense," Herr Klasen said.

Reports circulating on foreign exchange markets yesterday claimed that Signor Ossola had presented such a new EEC realignment plan to Washington. Officials at the US Treasury were said to have neither denied nor confirmed the report, which caused a sharp drop in the dollar price in Frankfurt.

Herr Klasen said that while the foreign exchange market was reacting to "even the wildest rumours" now, it was senseless for the central bank to intervene.

"The de-facto revaluation rate for the mark is much too high," Herr Klasen said, but if the Bundesbank tried to depress the mark revaluation rate now, it would have to absorb nearly half of the westward dollars, he said. "We won't do that."

Herr Klasen said on domestic affairs, that the Bundesbank council had decided against a further cut in minimum reserves requirement, as some market sources had anticipated, because there appeared to be ample liquidity on the domestic money market.

He noted that the previous reduction in minimum reserves, effective from November 1, released some 3,000 million marks and largely contributed to the current high degree of liquidity.

In December, when liquidity at Banks is normally tight because of year-end commitments of some 1,400 million marks of additional liquidity would be created because three-month forward dollars contracts from September would have to be settled by the Bundesbank.

The council also had not seen any need to bring down interest rates through a cut in the discount rate. Although the economic climate is cooling, West Germany "is not quite near stability yet" and the situation did not require any "further loosening of credit brakes," he added.

Japan is seeking worldwide talks on lowering tariffs to restore the post-war system for trade liberalisation.

The Japanese Minister for Economic Planning, Mr Kimura, told a GATT conference of the world's leading trading nations that a halt of the threatening wave of protectionist measures alone is not enough to help the free trade systems revive.

'Delusion' of North Sea oil

The idea that North Sea oil is a cheap source of energy is a delusion, the regional manager of Shell Mex and BP Ltd, Mr A. G. Simon, said yesterday.

"The reality of the situation is that the physical conditions in this most inhospitable of seas, can only be overcome by a lot of hard work, expertise and vast capital expenditure."

Mr Simon, who was addressing the annual Yorkshire and Humberside press luncheon, in Leeds, said that the proving of the North Sea's oil wealth had been "the outstanding event of the last 12 months."

Recalling that the first tankers from the North Sea had docked at Teesside and Immingham, he added: "This oil must be exploited because the Western world is hungry for energy of all kinds, and without oil there would be a disastrous shortage."

IN SPITE OF all the furore, the "dollar crisis" precipitated by President Nixon's new economic policy of August 15 has been digested with remarkable ease by the international monetary system.

Whether the floating of currencies is "dirty" or not, it works. The question in that area is only whether the world's central banks will return to a new system of fixed parities, which might well reproduce the same old problems, or whether they can be induced to accept the need for a less "dirty" system of exchange rate flexibility.

From the point of view of world economic organisation, the key fact of the new economic policy is not that the dollar has been floated—years ago—but that the floatation was accompanied by the imposition by the US Treasury of the 10 per cent import surcharge as a means of making the dollar float to where the US Administration thought it ought to go.

This was a dangerous strategy from several points of view. First, Canada and West Germany were already stating, so the application of the surcharge to them appeared to be sheer vindictiveness.

Secondly, the use of a trade policy instrument to force exchange rate adjustment diverted attention to the GATT rules governing trade policy. It also amounted to an invitation to a trade war into which other countries might be sucked although they could not hope to win.

Thirdly, given the strength of American protectionist forces, the US Treasury quickly became uncertain of what it was after. It began to regard the surcharge as a bargaining weapon for attaining all of its trade policy objectives.

The result was that the terms on which the United States would remove the surcharge soon became impenetrable. In consequence, the surcharge is likely to become a legitimisation of US protectionism rather than a means of restoring world monetary order.

Specifically, the surcharge has rapidly evolved from being a weapon for forcing

Why Europe must sue US for trade peace

By Professor Harry G. Johnson

an average 10 per cent appreciation of foreign currencies against the dollar—itsself a doubtful endeavour, since restoration of equilibrium would require widely different appreciations of foreign currencies—to being a new weapon for negotiations about non-tariff barriers and other trade issues, as was made clear in London on Tuesday by Mr William Eberle, President Nixon's new trade representative.

Vested interests

The situation has indeed been clarified by the understanding that the Americans would drop the surcharge in return for a European commitment—with preparations beginning now—to a major trade policy negotiation, to start immediately after the enlargement of the EEC.

In the meantime the surcharge provides extra protection to American producers and is building up vested interests that no President would want to disappoint just before an election.

President Nixon's new economic policy is ominously reminiscent of the policy of the United Kingdom in 1931-32.

Prior to the suspension of the gold standard, Britain was living with an over-valued pound, and had two choices—to defend the pound by deflation and protection, or to devalue.

In the event, devaluation was accompanied by deflation and protection, though the latter was no longer necessary and led to many of Britain's subsequent woes. It also helped to spark off a wave of retaliatory trade restrictions and beggar-my-neighbour policies.

Nixon's policy has involved a similar economic overkill. The dollar could have been protected by sufficient deflation, or by de facto devaluation through an export subsidy and import surcharge, instead of by floating it downwards against other currencies.

When flotation was decided on, it was economically senseless to add the import surcharge side of a de facto devaluation and to cut government expenditure and foreign aid, let alone to employ the desperate last and unavailing resort of wage-price freeze—the final busted flush of a government whose own inflationary policies have rendered its currency overvalued.

Like the British Government in 1931-32, the American Administration in 1971 has seriously compromised a long-standing commitment to free world trade at the same time as it has freed itself from international monetary constraints on a liberal world trade and investment policy.

Instead of being concerned about the short-run and easily digestible consequences of the monetary change, the rest of the world should be concerned about the long-run implications of the US resort to the tariff surcharge.

And it should be concerned, not about retaliating in like kind by imposing its own new barriers to trade, but about preventing the United States from drifting into the economic isolationism for which the new economic policy has set the stage.

The whole world, developed and under-developed, capitalist and communist, has any reasonable overall balance of advantages and disadvantages benefited tremendously during the past quarter of a century from the liberal trade and investment policies that the United States has both pursued itself and persuaded other nations into pursuing.

These benefits have involved not only the classical gains from specialising in the production of goods in which other countries have had a comparative advantage, but the new-style gains from the transmission of advanced technology mediated through foreign investment by the large American corporations.

Successive US Governments have, in a fundamental sense, deliberately committed in the loss through diffusion of American technological leadership. But, as Washington now sees it, the loss of technological leadership has been too fast and too humiliating, and the new economic policy is designed to show the rest of the world where the muscle really lies.

objective of catching up with American living standards. They should recognise that their prime objective at present should be to re-enlist the United States in the cause of freer world trade, rather than to drag their feet on the essentially superficial question of the need for, and extent of, the currency value adjustments that are obviously necessary but which their own intransigence has forced the United States to demand by flexing its muscles.

In this connection, it is absolutely obvious that a new approach to the negotiation of liberalisation of world trade is required. On the one hand, the new economic policy has set a framework for a narrowly self-interested process of bargaining by the Americans. They are not fools, whatever the Europeans and Japanese may think, and they have correctly observed, though with some paranoia, that their trading partners have been playing ducks and drakes with the established rules of world trade with respect to agricultural trade and the purchasing policies of nationalised enterprises.

If the game is protectionism, and they get annoyed enough, they will win it hands down: but the result will not be a more liberal international trading system.

On the other hand, important sections of American public opinion remain persuaded of the world benefits of free trade, and are prepared to sacrifice short-run commercial interests to that cause. That was clearly demonstrated in the recent report of President Nixon's Commission on International Trade and Investment Policy (the Williams Report) which advocated the pursuit of free

trade as a long-run policy objective.

What is needed is a new strategy for the freeing of world trade that would enlist the imagination of American liberals, who alone are capable of subordinating the protectionist interests of most American business, and now organised labour, in the cause of freer world trade. In this respect, the language of Mr Eberle is encouraging.

Discussions of trade policy alternatives following the Kennedy Round GATT negotiations have produced a consensus on the main elements of the negotiating package that might turn the trick. These elements are:

(1) The establishment of free, and not merely freer, trade in virtually all industrial products among the developed countries, according to an agreed time-table for tariff elimination;

(2) Rules or codes of competition covering non-tariff barriers to trade, the implementation of which would involve fairly continuous consultation and negotiation;

(3) Commitments to the regularisation and expansion of commercial trade in temperate-zone agricultural products;

(4) Understandings and perhaps specific rules or institutions governing the operations of multinational companies; and

(5) Special provisions fostering the trade of the less-developed countries.

One of the principal recommendations of the Williams Report was that in future reciprocity in trade negotiations should be judged in terms of the overall bargain and not on an item-by-item basis as in the past. The most desirable framework for satisfying that criterion, while achieving agreement on the package described above, would probably be the negotiation of a free trade association containing developed countries among special provisions for expanding the trade opportunities of the less-developed countries.

This possibility has been receiving serious consideration in the White House, as the chairman of the speech by Mr Eberle.

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CBI promise on urging reflation

Sir John Partridge, president of the Confederation of British Industry, yesterday promised new pressure on the Government for reflation of the economy if the present measures do not work.

Sir John told the CBI's Northern Regional Council in Newcastle-upon-Tyne that he did not think it would be right to press for new measures now.

"I think we have a better chance of pulling inflation back now than at any time since the lid was blown during the last year of the Labour Government's administration."

"While we are clearly going to have some difficult months to get through, I believe the economy as a whole may well be set on a healthier course than we yet perceive and that 1972 may see the beginning of that industrial recovery for which we have waited so long."

Sir John said the prices curve had shown a "significant flattening" since the CBI's 5 per cent restraint initiative.

There had also to be a lowering of pay settlements and a number of crucial pay issues were now in the pipeline. These had to be resolved in a way that did not defeat price restraint.

A lasting solution to world trading problems was more difficult. There was a great danger of barriers to world trade proliferating.

"I can only express the belief that the leading trading powers will not at the end of the day be quite so stupid as to emulate the Gadarene swine by jointly cantering over the cliff of world trade recession," said Sir John.

He attacked the notion that the CBI existed to promote the interests of the bosses and the shareholders. It stood for the "general welfare of industry."

"I am simply insisting that management too stands for employee interests, even if it has also to stand for other essential interests," he said.

The unemployment situation was based on new factors, many of them possibly desirable, such as a drive for increased efficiency and cost cutting right across British industry, said Viscount Watkinson at the Institute of Production Engineers' annual dinner in London yesterday.

He went on: "I wonder if it is too much to ask that in the circumstances, the TUC, the Government, and the Confederation of British Industry should get together and seek to pioneer some new solutions to what is in effect a new problem—namely how does the more efficient, more cost-conscious Britain that we are slowly creating, provide additional worthwhile employment for those whom the advance of technology throws out of employment?"

Viscount Watkinson, a former Conservative Cabinet Minister who is now chairman of Cadbury Schweppes, said: "In my view the majority of managers and men are bored to tears with the Industrial Relations Act. Very few of them will ever read its 187 pages of complicated legalese and they do not want to see it elevated to become a continuing focus for argument and political strife."

British industrial relations were one of the most misunderstood elements of our national life abroad and one of the most misrepresented in the foreign press of almost every country in which we hoped to sell British goods.

"Whilst we may not like this, it remains the hard fact and one that will do a great deal of damage to our industrial reputation if the kind of conflict started by the Labour Party's document 'In Place of Strife' is continued now that Parliament has passed a set of proposals into law."

"Certainly if we are to make our presence felt in Europe, we cannot afford to tie our hands by engaging in internecine industrial strife which will be seen to have no relevance at all by our European friends to the problems which an enlarged Community will face," he said.

Nixon plans to continue surcharge

The Nixon Administration laying the groundwork for a 10 per cent surcharge into 1973 by making scheduled K Round cuts six weeks from now.

While United States are not predicting how long import surcharge will be kept in effect, several international trade policy issues will have to be resolved.

One decision centre whether the US will permit fifth and final round of concessions, negotiated in Geneva in mid-1967, to effect on January 1 as previously scheduled.

If President Nixon does postpone these reductions in import duties on 1973 items more than 150 low imports apparently will automatically switch at the 1972 to the duty-free list become exempt from the 10 per cent import surcharge.

When Mr Nixon imposes import surcharge in mid-1973, as a "temporary" emergency measure to help correct the balance of payments deficit, it applied only to dutiable goods. Also exempted products covered by free trade arrangements.

Tariff commission have estimated that any valued at about \$760 million annually, mainly lumber, dyes, and other goods, or list of items slated to switch to the duty-free list at the end of 1972.

This would bring to a \$14,100 million annually volume of US exports would be exempted from surcharge, because they are subject to regular US duties.

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But these technical changes are not likely to result in immediate overall duty reductions for imported passenger cars and other products.

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If this happens, Treasury officials said, the US import surcharge on passenger cars presently 6.5 per cent, would be raised to 7 per cent, leaving the combination of regular emergency duties at the current 10 per cent level.

Fire damage in October reached an estimated total of £13,600,000, compared with £10,200,000 in the same month last year, and was the highest monthly figure for 1971 so far, the British Insurance Association said yesterday.

A cotton-spinning mill in North-west England suffered a £2,500,000 fire during the month. The average for the first 10 months this year is £10,900,000, £8 million more than for the same period in 1970. There were 15 other fires estimated to have cost £100,000 or more. One of them, at a Scottish warehouse, cost more than £200,000.

Higher fires toll

'New job factors to be faced'

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"Certainly if we are to make our presence felt in Europe, we cannot afford to tie our hands by engaging in internecine industrial strife which will be seen to have no relevance at all by our European friends to the problems which an enlarged Community will face," he said.

The company offered householders a 12-year guarantee for its product, Tex-Matt. It obtained its customers by an extensive advertising campaign, Mr Williams said.

Creditors passed no resolution and the matter was left with the Official Receiver as liquidator.



The 48,000 ton bulk carrier Forth Bridge docking at the Tilbury grain terminal with a full cargo of grain from Fremantle, Western Australia. Forth Bridge, one of the Bowring Steamship fleet, is on charter to the Seabridge Shipping Consortium

How Wm Hill could fit Sears

By Andrew Davenport

MR REGINALD MAUDLING is not the closest of friends with the bookmaking fraternity. In 1964 when he was Chancellor of the Exchequer he introduced the crippling tax on fixed price football betting which drove some of the largest companies close to bankruptcy.

Now as Home Secretary he has introduced a new Bill which could allow the Government to compete with the bookies in the High Street on more than equal terms.

But in spite of the obvious political uncertainties now surrounding the industry, this week's *Sears Holdings* Sir Charles Clode's £270-million master company bid £20 million for William Hill, one of Britain's biggest bookmakers. At the same time negotiations are currently in progress for a merger between J. Coral Holdings and Curzon House Investments.

Furthermore Sears is offering 135p per Hill share which values the group on an exit price earnings ratio of 13.5. On this basis Sears has put one of the highest premiums on Hills ever paid for a bookmaking business.

Also it is not as if Hills is any logical extension of any of Sir Charles' existing interests. Sears controls British Shoe Corporation which takes in Telford, Dorset and Saxone. Bookmaking is an entirely new business to Sears and the plan is that it should form a linchpin for a new leisure division which could also include bingo halls and holiday camps.

But why should Sears start with a bookmaking company which by its nature has practically no assets and works in an industry particularly vulnerable to any change in Government legislation?

Over the past two years bookmaking has earned a reputation of being a business that is a licence to print money. Last year, for example, have increased profits from £88,000 to £2,53 millions while Hill's profits are up from £467,000 to £2,55 millions.

The formula is comparatively straightforward. The major bookmaking companies have all been buying up small betting shops as fast as they can lay their hands on them. Hills had just 178 shops at the beginning of last year. It now has over 350.

By centralising costs and using computers, the bookmakers have been able to reduce the overheads of each separate shop as it is acquired and profits have grown correspondingly. In addition big companies, because they can afford to redecorate and can also accept a wider range of bets, can increase the volume of business of each shop they acquire.

Although the four major companies, Ladbrokes, William Hill, J. Coral Holdings, and Mecca (via City Tote), have been rapidly expanding, they have between them only around 2,200 shops out of a total of probably about 15,000.

What has really got the shares going in recent months has been a series of takeovers and mergers. In June Ladbrokes started its bitter and unsuccessful fight to acquire J. Coral and prevent it from merging with Mark Lane.

A few weeks later William Hill acquired Hurst Park syndicate and then earlier this month a merger between Curzon House Investment—74 per cent owned by Maxwell Joseph's Gilts Investments—and J. Coral Holdings was announced. The bid from Sears for William Hill is the latest offer.

William Hill started last year with just over 200 shops but managed to increase profits 78 per cent to £2,55 millions. The company has started this current year with over 550 shops so profits ought to be a great deal higher.

On this basis Sears' offer does not look over generous and the shares on the stock market currently stand at 8p over the bid price. However, the company has very little asset backing and the Government's announcement over the future of the Tote does introduce a new shadow over the business.

Mr Leonard Sainer, deputy chairman of Sears, shrugs off Mr Maudling's announcement by saying the Tote will probably initially have only about 50 shops and it will take them a very long time before they can start to compete seriously with the bookies.

However, the announcement has brought a storm of protest from the industry itself. Mr Alfie Bruce, chairman of the National Association of Bookmakers, has made it quite clear that the new Tote Bill will be a major threat to the bookies and he said last weekend that the Tote will be competing with industry on unfair terms.

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BSC tubes sales office to move

The sales departments of the tubes division of the British Steel Corporation, at present based at Birmingham and Glasgow, are to be moved to divisional headquarters at Corby, Northants.

The corporation said every endeavour would be made to avoid redundancies by offering staff alternative employment. The changes will begin next spring and are expected to be completed by the end of 1972.

Staff who were prepared to move would be helped to do so, the corporation said.

A BSC spokesman said the total effect of the reorganisation in Scotland would be the loss of about 300 jobs for office staff. Some of the staff would be redeployed in Corby, and there would be job opportunities elsewhere.

The trustees were advised by Lazard's, the merchant bank, to diversify their holdings even before Mr Hill died. In the changed circumstances following his death the trustees were approached by a number of institutions who wished to buy the shares and they finally decided to accept the Sears offer.

The trustees said the Hill management were well aware of these negotiations. Mr Wyborn had notified the company that he would not be able to fulfill his second role as financial adviser to the company in respect of any bid being made since this would represent a conflict of interest.

There is, of course, always the chance of a counter offer for the company. Ladbrokes and Gilts Investments have both ruled themselves out and J. Coral is still looking at the situation.

Meanwhile Mr Balshaw, chairman of William Hill, sent out a letter to shareholders last night advising them to do nothing till he has explained in detail why he considers the Sears offer "inadequate."

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Higher fires toll

PROPERTY GUARDIAN

TOM ALLAN on future developments

Far side of the town

ALTHOUGH the developers, the planners, the multiples, and the "cash" retailers, in traditional High Street positions, are discussing, debating, and disagreeing, the people who really matter—the shoppers—are at the moment anyway almost totally disinterested in the hypermarket concept. The British public has an infinite capacity for being unaware until "it" whatever it may be, has happened and is sitting there under their very noses. Hypermarkets are like that.

The hypermarket developers must, nevertheless, have done their homework. They have probably researched their subject, analysed Mrs Average Shopper and her habits, and know far more about her than she does herself. They know—as the major convenience goods manufacturers know—that she has an eye for 4p off and any retailing centre which, because of low land prices, staff, and running costs, and high turnover, can permanently offer 4p off is going to be an attraction. If food costs continue to rise faster than wages, the attraction will become all the greater as time goes on.

Hypermarkets will offer a wide range of goods—mostly foodstuffs but with some comparison goods like clothing and household equipment. They will rely on the mobility of the shopper—acres of car parking are a primary feature—and her willingness to drive several miles to the hypermarket site. The most determined bargain seeker is often the mother of two or three ravenous children and whose big shortage is sometimes money but mostly time. Whereas she might rush from Tesco to the Co-op and then to Sainsbury's in a convenient four mile journey to buy her bargains, she might be prepared to drive from one side of the town to

the other and beyond, find a place in the hypermarket car park 300 yards from the nearest cover, particularly if it is raining, buy her bits and pieces, find her car again (and that's another story) and drive back like a mad thing to pick up little Jeremy from school. That, however, is the developers' problem. They will, no doubt, get her there and probably even persuade her to come back. The professional public relations people will have a lot to do—and they can be successful. Some of the traders in Runcorn's new Shopping City are said to have sold two weeks' stocks in three days when it opened earlier this month but this is a quality development with integral car parking in what will be a central area. It is not a hypermarket—although there are green fields around it.

But there are other factors in the hypermarket argument. The first is the factor of urban economics. Can the traditional town centres face a drop in their retail turnover which might arise through intensive hypermarket trading? The High Street and central shopping area traders say no, as might be expected. If they are right, there could be empty shops and the beginning of a central area slump. The consumer drudges, which are not the primary trading concern of the hypermarkets, could be badly hit if the heavy pedestrian traffic generated by the convenience goods shops stopped walking past their doors and windows. The local planning authorities still give great weight to aesthetics rather than economics but all their planning hopes could be dashed if the economics of the central areas went awry. Hypermarkets are an economic planning problem—and the decision makers could have a difficult time sifting the honest wheat from the vested chaff.

The second factor is social. Com-

munities need a focal point. From the village with its pub and church to the major town with its restaurants, cinemas, theatres, and public buildings, there is no doubt that shops play an important part in keeping the central area in focus—and what is more keeping it alive. Many towns have become impersonal places which die on a Sunday or when the commercial pressures close down at six o'clock. The prospect of families shopping in an impersonal hypermarket and then driving on the ring road to spend their evenings watching television at home is not a bright one for the town centre.

And the third is public investment. If the hypermarket is to serve a whole town and not just one side of it, there might have to be rapid transit roads, feeder bus services, even railways. We are not yet entirely a two-car nation and a high proportion of shoppers still use their feet.

What it amounts to is this. Hypermarkets are temples of retailing geared to high turnover and low costs. They could, if they caught on, substantially alter the whole retailing structure of our country and, in so doing, create side effects which could destroy what is left of community activity by upsetting the economics of expensive town centres which could become economic white elephants. No one is going to mind a few here and there as a sort of imported novelty but there are signs that once a foothold was established a rash of hypermarkets could spread across the country. Local authorities should think carefully and make sure that on economic, social, and public investment grounds the hypermarket is of real value to their electorates and ratepayers. They could be of real value but the decision-making should take the measure of all the factors.

Together in the North

PROPERTY people include geographers, economists, and a gallery of disciplines, the expertise of which no one doubts. The weight of investment in property places a heavy responsibility on the leaders and one of the biggest problems they face is the sheer scale of the influences on their buildings—insurances which are becoming more and more regional and occasionally national whereas once they were purely local. One young chartered surveyor, Michael Wand, made an early name for himself by winning the RICS President's Prize in 1968 with his paper suggesting a dam across the Thames from Clapton to Margate with an airport at Foulness and a deep-water port near Margate. Such a scheme would have had a dramatic effect on the South-east—and a dramatic effect on property values—just as Foulness will now have on Essex.

Wand has now pointed to another possibility. The sort of knowledge he has to possess to do his job successfully involves the careful analysis of the economics of whole regions which might influence a development decision. He, of course, recognises the magnet of London and sees its effects on other parts of the country. London,

he says, is a magnet because it offers everything in large quantities and because it is cohesive. Most cities outside it offer bits of this and bits of that and alone cannot compete. Regions in the present administrative structure hardly begin to be effective because they are superimposed on a mix of independent authorities each one of which has its own little area to grind. What are required are regions with teeth.

The corridor from Liverpool to Hull, taking in Manchester, Leeds, and Sheffield, possesses all the ingredients of a competitor to London. Major ports serving both Atlantic and North Sea trade, industry which within the corridor as a whole is diversified and reasonably well balanced, good and improving communication with one principal exception, and an almost comparable population. It has strength in its educational centres, its own culture but has some of the best—certainly more beautiful than London's commuter hinterland—and it has the capacity for massive growth. It has, they say, the only two football teams and the only two cricket teams in the country.

But it is an area of dozens of local authorities, boards, corporations, and

departments which the Local Government Bill hardly bites on. Its administrative diversity is awful to behold and this is its weakness. Give it a single-minded administrative structure and it would immediately begin to counter London's gravitational pull.

Of course, the corridor still needs some investment. Its east-west communication system is just not good enough to knit the areas together. It needs a really good airport—perhaps two—and it needs more industry of the right kind initially. Once it began to exert its own magnetic influence, other industry would come. Its commercial influences—its local Stock Exchanges for example—must be encouraged. But most of all, give it leadership on a super-regional basis. Give it teeth.

The teeth are there, of course, but they have not been set in the gums as a complete denture. The area has plenty of talent, plenty of spokesmen. If they knit the areas together, the unions, the chambers of commerce, put the pressure on in a unified way, it could be a start. It's a nice idea—it would be better if the Northern cities could show common cause and begin the movement to build the great counter-magnet.

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"NEWALL" No. 1 MC BORING MACHINE
Sheet Metal Machinery & Steel Stock
"Newall" 34in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 6in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 14in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 18in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 24in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 30in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 36in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 42in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 48in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 54in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 60in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 66in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 72in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 78in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 84in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 90in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 96in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 102in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 108in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 114in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 120in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 126in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 132in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 138in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 144in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 150in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 156in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 162in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 168in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 174in. x 12in. Grinder "Invicta" 180in. x 12in. 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Yesterday's soccer matches

Swiss again manage a draw

By DAVID LACEY: England U. 23 1, Switzerland U. 23 1

Young England suffered much of the frustration of their elders at Ipswich last night. Having taken just ten minutes of the match to pick the lock of the Swiss defence, they found the door shut firmly in their faces once more, five minutes later, and had to be content with a draw.

England began hungrily, the Swiss possessively. Gowing and Kewer, in particular, were keen to get a chance for Thomas in the first minute and Deck, diving hard to his right, saved well. Shilton, however, had to wait another five minutes for his first touch of the ball, for the young Swiss made possession a more immediate object than attack.

For England, Brooking was soon seeking and finding open space deep in the Swiss half. A lobbed pass dropped straight on to the toe of Royce whose shot was wild and worried Deck as the sudden ground shot by Mueller did Shilton, the ball evading his out and strutting past the far post.

After their promising start England began to be frustrated and perplexed by the close passing patterns of the Swiss teams. Meyer, Siegenthaler and Hasler were stroking the ball about in the middle of the pitch, while England's young men little chance to show their potential as heirs apparent to some of the more problematic positions in the senior side.

The situation was one often faced by English teams—a pass-off opposition allowing the play to a gentle tempo in midfield and withdrawing eight men into defence whenever possession was lost. As students in bulk defence Switzerland's youngsters had learned their lessons well. A smart shot from Hasler, after a simple square pass by Muhlen, had crossed the goal line and brought Shilton into urgent action and the game to momentary life.

But at least Switzerland were not as good as they seemed. After their promising start England began to be frustrated and perplexed by the close passing patterns of the Swiss teams. Meyer, Siegenthaler and Hasler were stroking the ball about in the middle of the pitch, while England's young men little chance to show their potential as heirs apparent to some of the more problematic positions in the senior side.

When the stalemate was broken the goal could hardly have been less typical of the play which had preceded it. The Swiss for once committed forward, Gowing sent a 40-yard pass to find Channon running clear on the right. The Southern man strode almost to the by-line, clipped the ball back and Brooking launched himself headlong to the inside of the goal. Mueller, who had menaced England throughout the second half, squeezed a shot through several pairs of defending legs and out of reach of the unsighted Shilton.

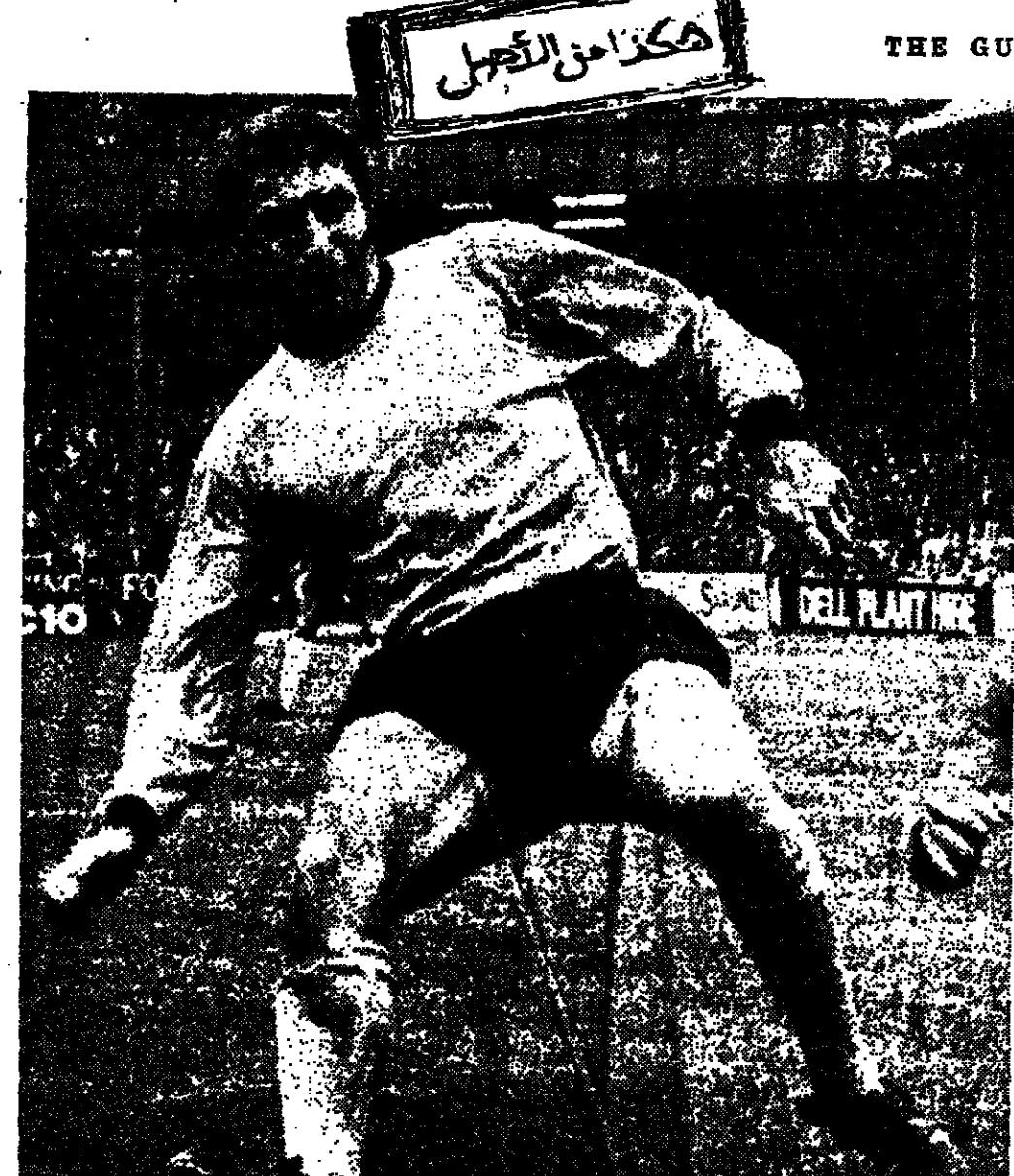
ENGLAND.—Shilton (Leicester), Wallwork (Leicester), Lampard (West Ham), Gowing (Leicester), Channon (Leicester), Brooking (Leicester), Hasler (Leicester), Meyer (Leicester), Siegenthaler (Leicester), Hasler (Leicester), Meyer (Leicester), Siegenthaler (Leicester).

SWITZERLAND.—Deck (Grasshoppers), Hasler (Grasshoppers), Meyer (Grasshoppers), Siegenthaler (Grasshoppers), Gowing (Grasshoppers), Channon (Grasshoppers), Brooking (Grasshoppers), Hasler (Grasshoppers), Meyer (Grasshoppers), Siegenthaler (Grasshoppers).

Referee: R. Vignani (France).

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Mike Bailey, who led Wolverhampton to their fine victory

Richards Arsenal's former settles it early character seen against Spurs

By ALBERT BARHAM: Tottenham 1, Arsenal 1

Wolverhampton Wanderers gained their fifth successive victory in the UEFA Cup competition when they won 1-0 against Carl Zeiss, the leaders of the East German league, in a third round first leg match in Jena yesterday.

Wolves, fielding the team which beat Arsenal 3-1 on Saturday, found the game a much more difficult one than they had expected. The pitch at the Ernst-Abbe ground was heavily covered with snow and more fell during the match.

Wolves made no attempt to go back on defence after their early goal and continued to look the more dangerous side in spite of conceding most of the possession to their opponents.

Wolves, who have now won three successive away matches in this competition, were close to increasing their lead just before half-time when Derek Dougan's header was well saved by Grapenthin.

Wolves took control of the play in the second half and the Carl Zeiss attack became increasingly ragged, and the crowd of about 12,000 who had gathered at several shots soared yards wide.

Spurs had to be content with one point from their arch rivals, Arsenal, at White Hart Lane last night. Though they kept Arsenal under siege for most of the second half, the visitors found renewed dedication, and aided by brave goalkeeping by Wilson, they cracked only once, 11 minutes from the end of a rousing first Division match watched by a capacity crowd.

Last night's match was a distinguished occasion as, for the first time this century, present holders of the double played the past holders of the trophy.

It was soon clear that Arsenal's back-up of defence had resulted in greater willingness to work, and greater concentration and application, not all due to the admission of Kemp and the experience of McNab behind him.

But after these initial attacks much of the first half was spent in a midfield battle with neither side gaining more than a few yards advantage. Through the second half Arsenal's goal was working well for Spurs, finishing off one move with a neat header, but generally Spurs were kept at bay by Arsenal's defence.

Though there were great gaps yawning behind the Spurs defence for Radford and Kennedy to exploit, few opportunities were created for the visitors.

Plastic ball protest

Chester Barnes and Neale are among English players who have petitioned the IFA opposing the plastic ball.

A meeting of the International Committee of the Rugby Football League in Manchester yesterday, delegates to the Selection Committee the authority to employ a coach to the British international team.

At an earlier meeting the Rugby League Council discussed the attitudes towards the present fixture formula.

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Bugner bitten by rugger American

By JOHN DA

Joe Bugner, the former American heavyweight champion, is trying to fight his way back to the top of the British Commonwealth heavy-weight division, and he is not alone. Another setback at Nottingham through the defence of Larry Middleton from Balding opportunities to counter-attack, an unbroken head, and he was in danger of being knocked out by a fourth round blow when he was buffeted into the air for a count of six in the fifth.

The fight was intended to be a final round, but Bugner's manager, who had lost his three title fights, decided to pull out of the fight after the first round. Bugner, who was not seen after the first round, was said to have been badly hurt.

After that he suddenly shed the tension and really got down to some solid punching, to the body, which weakened Bugner. But just when the campaign was going well, although it was by now too late to salvage very much, Bugner was again severely hurt by a number of the American's punches brought here by a trainer who was trading punches with the other.

Altogether it was a performance which will bring Bugner's name into the ring as a boxer who has been badly hurt. But just when the campaign was going well, although it was by now too late to salvage very much, Bugner was again severely hurt by a number of the American's punches brought here by a trainer who was trading punches with the other.

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Cripps and Cull go through

By DAVID LACEY

A single amateur, Richard Cooper, and three professionals will contend the semi-finals of The Field Trophy at Queen's Club tomorrow. Norwood Cripps (Queen's) meets Cooper at 10.30 and Frank Willis (Manchester) the holder, plays David Cull (Lords) at 1.30.

Yesterday Cripps beat an 18-year-old from Manchester, Chris Ennis, 6-1, 6-3, 6-3 in an entertaining match of classic strokes. Cripps, remembering that his opponent had beaten him, albeit with handicap, in the Taylor Cup at Hayling Island in the summer, attacked from the start.

In the first set Ennis tried everything with little reward, but he pulled up from 1-5 to 3-5 in the second, where he served well and Cripps needed all his skill to get his opponent away from the net. Cripps, with more experience, could out-manoeuvre his opponent, but he was fought all the way and Ennis showed not only promise but a refreshing enjoyment of the game.

Bridgend go down at The Gnoil

By DAVE PHILLIPS

No victory during their century year will afford more satisfaction to Gnoil supporters than this well-merited success over the unofficial Welsh champions, Bridgend. The game, re-arranged from November 18 to today, was a classic of the Knock-out Challenge Cup, attracted a large crowd and provided one of the keenest tussles of the season, with Neath full value for their victory by a goal and a penalty.

Bridgend, who had not been at full strength and the experiment of playing three wings in their three-quarter line with the centre Lang at outside-half was under a half-time when Derek Dougan's header was well saved by Grapenthin.

A minor blemish on Wolves' first half performance was the caution awarded to Jim McCallum for retaliation after he had been fouled.

Maister blunts the H. A. thrust

By our Correspondent: Oxford Univ. 1, Hockey Assoc. XI 1

Oxford University were entitled to be pleased with their performance in drawing 1-1, in The Parks, with a Hockey Association team which, if not overpowering, were by no means negligible. The university took the lead early in the second half, when Maister converted a penalty stroke, and kept their heads in front till some five minutes from the finish, when Elson scored from a penalty corner.

Oxford can have no worries at half-back. Belcher, Maister, and McCannell are strong, quick and skilful, a combination which not many teams can command. They have almost no worries in defence, for Badger has stepped into the breach left at full back when Swannpool returned to South Africa with a competence that must be gratifying to his captain.

The university attack is not as yet up to the standard of the defence, but the inside, Barker and Roberts are slowly but surely learning their trade and developing a speed of rhythm of movement which will bring rewards.

Britain try again

New Delhi, November 24

Britain today play the second of their four Tests against India. The match, at Karnal in the Punjab, follows India's 1-0 victory in the first Test at Kota, Rajasthan, yesterday.

India's goal then came in the opening minute of the second half. Their right back, Baldev Singh, scored from a penalty which followed a tackle in the back which obtained until 1966 was refused.

A request by Lancashire County to adopt a "six tackle" rule in a team matches was granted. It will apply from January to the end of the season. However, an application by Wakefield Trinity to play one match with unlimited tackles (the law which obtained until 1966) was refused.

Varwicksire now need only to draw

Warwickshire need only draw Staffordshire in their final match in the Midlands group of county championship, at Loughborough on December 8, to be of the group title and a place in the semi-finals. Last at Loughborough, they have made no mistake in making mis-chievous flickered between brilliant and the mediocre, eventually ran out winners by 6 wickets, three tries and a try goal to three penalty points.

Warwickshire maintained their pace and inventiveness in the first half, but they could not score, but they did not until five minutes from the end of the first half when they scored a try which was a surprise in its execution.

£100,000 for Welsh RU

The Welsh RU have signed a contract that will bring them more than £100,000 for the advertising rights at Cardiff Arms Park.

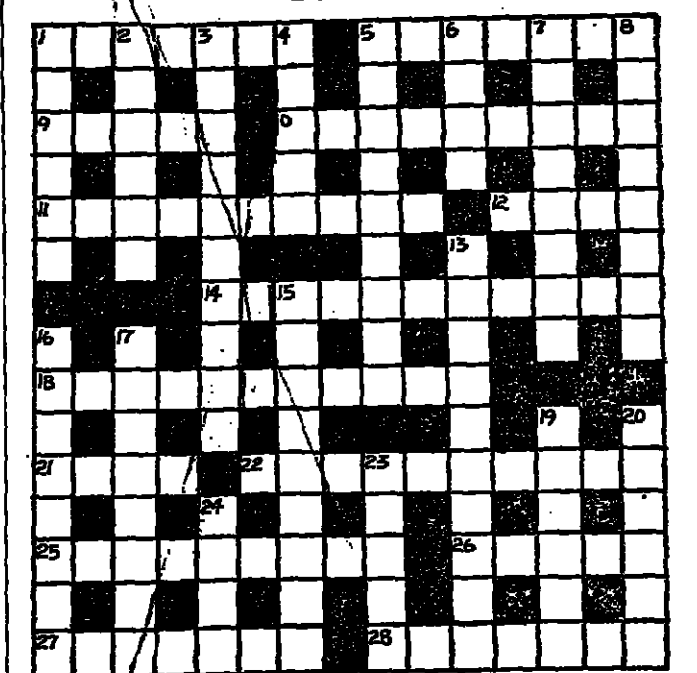
Wallabies lose

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GUARDIAN CROSSWORD 13,095



- ACROSS
1. Foreign settler is a saint (7).
 2. Captain of the captain (7-8-9).
 3. Set out to work in (5).
 4. Rake and shovel (5).
 5. A reformer (5).
 6. Lot of money in building? (4).
 7. Angler's requirements filed (4).
 8. Slips playing—or should do (5).
 9. A good deal, perhaps? (5).
 10. Nice grated dish similar to weather-men (10).
 11. Money given to one girl or another (9).
- DOWN
1. Run round church spire (6).
 2. Letter misinterpreted economic system (10).
 3. Alarmingly attractive woman? (6).
 4. Asks poets' gathering about love, as it were (2, 2, 5).
 5. Song upon a list of Republicans (4).
 6. Duffin type gives order to stamp book contract (8).
 7. Would we greet her stiffly? (8).
 8. Shoppers might see through this (10).
 9. The idiot in the clip carries the measure (8).
 10. Bees is bound to card (8).
 11. Trust the cleaner to be off (8).
 12. Write supplier poster? (8).
 13. Important part of officer's speech (8).
 14. Author of 21? (5).
 15. Biblical character turns up in Temple Bar (4).
- Solution tomorrow

